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Foreign Commerce WEEKLY

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Vol. XVIII, *No.* 4 *January* 20, 1945

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Foreign Commerce Weekly

Foreign Commerce Weekly is the official medium of the Department of Commerce for the dissemination of commercial and economic information gathered throughout the world by the Foreign Service of the United States, and obtained from other sources

Issued by the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, JESSE H. JONES, *Secretary*

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Annual Subscription: Domestic, $6.00; Foreign, $8.75; Single copy, 15 cents. Make remittances payable to the Superintendent of Documents and mail direct to that official, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

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U.S.S.R. Saves Its Oil

Program for Utilization of Local Fuel Is Part of Economic Planning of the Soviet Union—and Conserves Russian Oil

By DOROTHY V. KNIBB, *Industrial Projects Unit, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce*

SOVIET RUSSIA, with an estimated half of the world's total known petroleum reserves and the second largest current production of oil, is relentlessly pursuing a plan to shift industry and agriculture to the utilization of other sources of fuel and power. Oil-producing zones in this vast continental empire are badly off center, and sweeping distances stagger the limited and overtaxed transportation system. Many areas without local production of oil have had to develop their own fuel resources, however secondary, but even in more fortunate regions such as the coveted Caucasus, there is no profligate use of petroleum for productive processes that can go forward by some other means. Soviet Russia is not using its oil when something else will do.

Although war has forced the application of the plan for utilization of local fuel, it was not an emergency measure but rather an integral part of long-range economic planning. In the early days after the Revolution, the Soviets envisioned a national economy structure that would have firm corner posts in many local centers of wealth. All regions were to be developed to the fullest extent through total utilization of all resources, and there was to be no economic subservience of one area to another, as was the case in imperial Russia. Raw materials would not be hauled from the outlying regions to create further wealth in established centers, but industry would move out to the source beds of raw materials where new centers of wealth would grow up. Agriculture would be expanded and diversified so as to contribute to the complete independence of the several localities.

Russian industry in Czarist days was centripetal, and the focal point was in the extreme western part of the country. Ninety percent of all industrial enterprises were concentrated in three regions—around Leningrad, near Moscow, and in the Ukraine. The Urals, Siberia, large areas in the Caucasus, Middle Asia, the North, and the Far East went entirely undeveloped and largely unexplored. Decentralization of industry and diversification of agriculture were mentioned in the First Five-Year Plan (1928 through 1932), but consideration at that time was only superficial, because emphasis was placed on expansion of industry in Southern U.S.S.R., where reconstruction had been nearly completed.

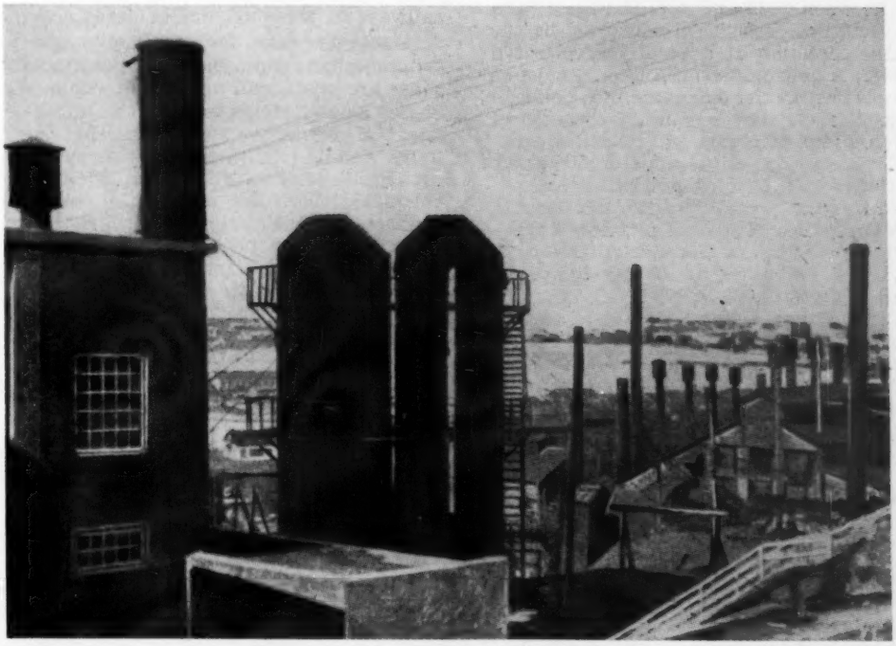
Second Five-Year Plan

By 1933, when the Second Five-Year Plan went into effect, a survey had been made of the natural wealth of the various regions—coal, petroleum, ores, transportation, and agricultural possibilities, and density of population. Time was too short to permit detailed studies, but a general plan of procedure was mapped out with instructions for the economic organization of the republics and territories of the country. The object was to establish key industries near the sources of supply of raw materials and to develop agricultural centers which would be relatively independent of use of transportation facilities.

Changes destined to have far-reaching consequences began to take place. Agricultural production spread out to the north and east, away from the old centers. Crops formerly grown in relatively restricted areas were cultivated generally wherever soil and climate would permit. Sugar beets, fruits and vegetables, cotton and silk began to flourish in new lands. Agricultural centers and industries dependent upon agricultural production mushroomed up in farming areas.

White Russia developed from its forest stands wood-working and paper industries. Cotton was introduced in the Ukraine, home of coal and grains, and in Azerbaidzhan, the oil-rich republic on the Caspian. Silk and cotton cultivation and stock-raising were emphasized in Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, and Tadzihkistan along the southern boundary of Soviet Asia. Kirgizia, untamed agricultural republic of the steppe zone, became a center of the sugar-refining industry for Central Asia. Armenia produced grapes and wines, and began to make synthetic rubber from local raw materials.

Mining enterprises and heavy industry were pushed out from the old centers, the centrifugal force applied being Government appropriations that were larger for new areas and smaller for established ones. Output in old areas did not necessarily decrease, but its relative impor-



Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow.

Many plants, such as this one in Kazakhstan, are now operating on locally produced fuels, thus eliminating costly transportation.

tance decreased because output from new areas began to show up on production tables. In the coal industry, for example, the rate of decentralization was rapid. As late as 1913, 87 percent of the country's total coal output came from the Donbas region of the Ukraine. By 1938, after new coal fields had been opened up in Siberia, Kirgizia, Kazakhstan, Kuznetsk, and along the Pechora River, the Donbas accounted for only 50 percent of the total Soviet output of 132,900,000 tons, nearly five times as much as the 1913 total.

Other changes were as notable. A new oil area, "the Second Baku," was opened up in the Volga-Urals to serve industries developing near the vast sources of raw materials there. Bunkering stations for northern shipping were established along the Arctic coast. Output of the copper industry in the Urals, never sufficient for the country's needs, was boosted by new production in Armenia and Kazakhstan.

Machine-building plants went into operation at Cheliabinsk and were soon vying for production records with old centers in the west. The country's automobiles and trucks increased in number by a phenomenal 572 percent between 1932 and 1937.

Third Five-Year Plan

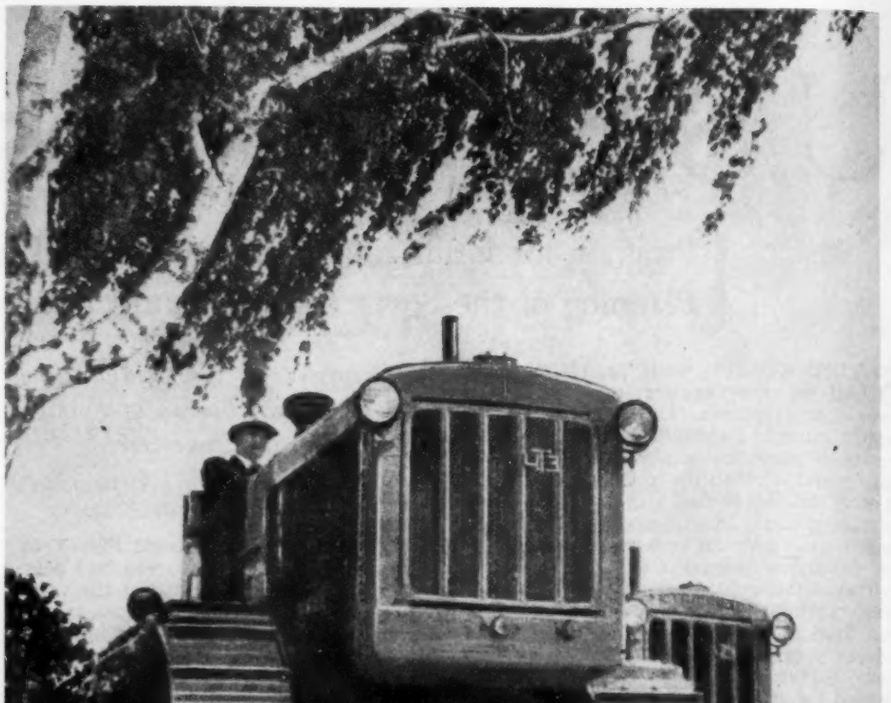
The Third Five-Year Plan, which was inaugurated in 1939, proposed the creation of self-contained industries in the Caucasus and the Far East. At the eighteenth conference of the Communist Party in 1938, a resolution was adopted that provided for the creation in the central regions—the Urals, near the Volga, and in Siberia—of enterprises to duplicate large ones in the west. This step was motivated by considerations of national security in the event that prolonged war should come from the west.

Between 1939 and 1941 industrial and agricultural activities continued in the same direction at a greatly accelerated rate. A new industrial Russia, almost as important as the old, came into being in the Urals, safely beyond the range of systematic bombing. Agricultural output in nearly all regions made great strides forward, attributed in large measure to wide use of "power" implements on the farms. The total number of tractors operating in the Soviet Union in 1941 was estimated at 500,000, compared with a paltry 7,000 in 1930.

The Soviet Union, a colossal nation that covers one-sixth of the earth's land surface, is bounded by the Baltic and Bering Seas, the Arctic, and Afghanistan. In the early days after the Revolution, oil was produced in the Caucasus—Baku, Maikop, Grozny—in the Emba fields in Kazakhstan, and in limited quantities at Fergana in Uzbekistan and at antipodal Sakhalin. Between 1933 and 1938, the afore-mentioned Second Baku was opened up, and deposits were worked along the Kama River.

Transportation Inadequate

A fairly adequate system of pipe lines from producing zones to industrial and agricultural areas makes the use of oil



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One of Russia's many tractors now operating on substitute fuels.

products feasible in many large areas of the West, the Urals, and in certain sections of the Ukraine. River barges and railways in these particular areas complement pipe-line facilities. But distances among and between producing zones are great, and nearly the whole of Soviet Asia stretches east of the important oil centers. Rivers—except the Volga and its tributaries—flow generally toward the frozen North and offer inadequate means for distribution of oil products. One trunk railway line stretches across the Soviet Union from east to west, and a few short spur lines go north and south. It is, therefore, obvious that oil products could not be transported to all regions of the country even if existing facilities were used for nothing else.

But trains, trucks, and steamers have long been busy carrying men and fighting materials, and industry and agriculture have had to go "full speed ahead" very largely on their own responsibility. Productive centers long since received orders to find or create sources of fuels and power—and the orders do not stop there. Even where oil is available, it is not to be used when gas or coal can be substituted. And good coal is not to be used when a poor grade of coal or some other indigenous material will do. If there is no possible source for local production of fuel, it must be brought in from the nearest adequate source by what is locally considered to be the most economical means.

Use of Gas Increased

But *how* are the Soviets eliminating transportation and saving oil? In the first place, they are using increased quantities of manufactured and natural gas—and the country leads the world in gas resources. They utilize petroleum gases from oil and natural gas wells, they produce gas in town plants and coke ovens, and they carry out underground gasification of coal—something not done on a commercial scale anywhere else in the world.

When the Soviets took over their own oil production in the Baku region in 1921, there were in the entire country only a very few oil technicians. They produced oil, but the hit-and-miss methods employed resulted in great waste both in oil and in natural gas. With experience came knowledge—and with knowledge came better equipment and techniques. But as late as 1938, gas accounted for only 1 percent of the country's total fuel (in the United States that same year it accounted for 10 percent).

Before 1939 nearly all natural gas used came from petroleum wells—few if any gas wells were producing. Therefore, utilization of gas was restricted to oil-

producing areas, Baku in particular. In 1939, output in Baku amounted to 2,900,000,000 cubic meters, nearly twice the amount produced in 1934, and it is believed that present annual rate of output is much higher. This gas serves various purposes in the area—as fuel for power stations, domestic heating, and to some extent for gasoline in automobiles. Its use is encouraged wherever it can be substituted for oil, which is at hand, or for coal, which has to be hauled in.

With the bringing in of natural gas wells, a much wider use of gas became possible because some wells exist in areas where there is little or no petroleum, although the two are generally found close together. Natural-gas deposits exist at Ukhta, in the Northern Caucasus, near Kerch, in the Emba oil region, along the lower Volga, in Central Asia, and in the Western Urals, concentration point of the new industrial enterprises. These sources are being tapped at an accelerated rate—it costs much less to bring in a gas well than an oil well—and pipe lines are carrying the gas into industrial centers.

Much is being done to develop the natural-gas resources of the Ukraine, as well as to restore installations destroyed by the Germans. A gas pipe line 20 kilometers long has been restored in Stalino, and plans have been made to construct a pipe line 500 kilometers long that will bring gas from the Carpathian deposits for use in Kiev, Zhitomir, Shepetovka, and Kremenets. The Western Ukraine produces quantities of gas for local uses and Voroshilovgrad and Melitopol are supplied from these sources. Much of this gas comes from the Donets coal area where tests conducted in 1939 indicated that compressed gas makes as good motor fuel as gasoline, except for producing speed.

A gas gusher, containing 92 percent methane, was brought in near Saratov, which is in the Second Baku area. On the first day the well produced 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas and on the third, 2,000,000 cubic feet. Within 3 months' time, gas from the well was going through pipe lines to serve the furnaces of the electric plants and other industrial enterprises in Saratov. It is claimed that use of gas in Saratov alone saved, during 1943, some 250,000 tons of coal and great quantities of wood and oil. Geologists believe that this one well is capable of providing sufficient gas for all the region's industrial needs over a long period of time, and undeveloped deposits are said to be enormous.

Gas from the Pokhvistnevo deposits is used in various enterprises at Kuibyshev, which is also in the Second Baku area. Ten plants are converting hard fuel to gas for utilization in smithies and foundries, in heating installations, and for cutting materials. Gas from these plants has already effected a saving in transportation of 8,000 tons of mazut (a heavy petroleum residue), 200,000 tons of coal, and 6,000 cubic meters of wood. A late November cable from Moscow reports discovery of two new gas deposits in the Kuibyshev oblast and hails the event as a matter of great importance in the fuel world.

Eleven wells at Izhma supply manufacturing plants at Dagestan, and gas is being produced in important quantities in Molotov and Stalino.

For some 6 or 8 years, the Soviet Union has been interested in developing means of utilizing gas as fuel in automobiles. In 1938, 40 cars equipped for gas were built in Gorkii and Moscow. Ordinary illuminating gas was used in experiments conducted in Moscow in 1939. Tests were carried out in the Donets area at about the same time, the work being done by the Moscow Research Institute for the automobile industry in cooperation with the coal-gas trusts. Results were said to be good. What progress has been made in this direction in more recent years is not known, but 1944 press reports indicate that charcoal gas has attained some success and popularity as a motor fuel.

Underground Gasification of Coal

Commercial underground gasification of coal is a development peculiar to Soviet Russia, although the first experimental work was done somewhere else. The process employed provides for the underground burning of coal beds which in turn give off coal gases that can be utilized for heating and in chemical industries. A blower sends down through a shaft hot air containing much hydrogen, which is absorbed by the coal and surrounding rock. Then the coal is ignited, the blower shaft is shut off, and gases are emitted through another shaft. These gases are recovered and piped into consumption areas.

The gas obtained by this method is said to be only half as costly as that produced from coal in surface plants. Much less labor is required, and labor productivity is increased; the gas fuel can be transported much less expensively than coal can be mined and hauled; the original equipment is relatively simple and costs less than gas works equipment. Much dust and dirt is eliminated by the procedure.

Besides fuel gases, gases for technological uses are produced also. These are utilized in production of synthetic ammonia, synthetic liquid fuel from water gas, and sponge iron.

Actual work on the underground gasification of coal was begun in 1933. Gradually, experimental stations were built—one at the huge Gorlovka mines, which operated continuously for 15 months, and one at Kuznetsk, which operated for 4 months. By the end of 1936, an important phase had been completed. Experimental stations had been established in five large fields, and research institutes had conducted tests on gases produced. In 1937, 1,500 men were employed in the industry and important quantities of fuel were being produced.

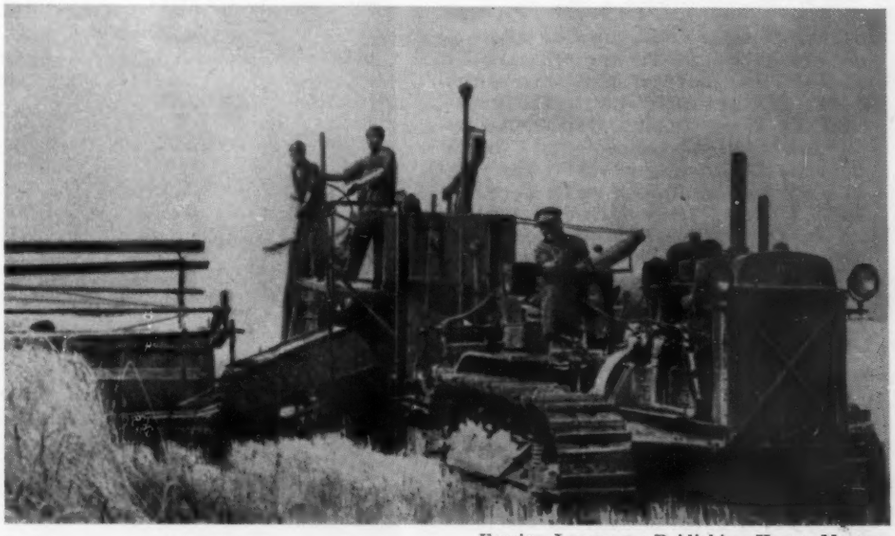
Developments in the Moscow basin have special significance. Low-grade coals are being made to yield high-calory fuels, which supply homes and industrial enterprises as effectively as those fuels formerly produced from costly transported products, it is said. Future developments along these lines offer interesting possibilities, since Soviet Russia has a lion's share of the world's coal reserves.

Fuel From Slime

Another important source of fuel in many localities is sapropeles—a slime that accumulates in stagnant waters from the decay of microscopic vegetable and animal organisms. Sapropeles are found in lakes and peat bogs, in the latter case as strata underlying the peat. Scientists believe that this slime is the first stage in the formation of sapropele coal, just as peat is the ancestor of bituminous coal. But sapropeles, unlike coal, are rich in fats and albumen and therefore akin to petroleum.

Deposits are scattered across the Soviet Union—near Leningrad, Kalinin, Ivanovo, in the Sebezh Raion, in Ostashkovo near Moscow, at Barzas in the Kemorovo Oblast, and in the Far East. They exist in White Russia and near Achinsk in the Krasnoyar Krai. It is

(Continued on p. 13)



Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow.

Heavy equipment, such as the combine pictured above, requires large quantities of liquid fuel (or substitutes) in Russia's far-flung fields.

VENEZUELA—
Storehouse of Oil and Food

By KENNETH W. BAKER, *Chief of United States Food Supply Mission to Venezuela*

IN THE GLOBAL BATTLE OF SUPPLY, Venezuela has a strategic place. Modern machine warfare is powered by oil, and Venezuela, next to the United States, is the Western Hemisphere's greatest supplier of oil. With vast demand for petroleum products to fuel airplanes, ships, and tanks, Venezuelan oil is a vital supply source for the United Nations' fighting forces. Oil is to Venezuela what copper is to Chile and sugar to Cuba, both with respect to the economies of these countries and their contributions to the United Nations' war effort.

Venezuela also is the scene of another significant episode in the global battle for supplies. This episode is the effort to grow more food for home use. Like many other countries hit by wartime disruption of trade, Venezuela has experienced food shortages and rising living costs. So it became necessary to encourage local food production. Increased food production holds the dual promise of increasing supplies for immediate use, and thereby helping stem rising prices, and aiding long-range improvement in living standards. Now Venezuela actively is at work increasing production of oil and food. The oil is for export. The food is for home consumption. And thereby hangs a story of inter-American cooperation, typifying joint activities carried out in this Hemisphere in recent years to solve common economic problems.

Food-Growing Program

The story of the food-growing program in Venezuela begins in the critical year of 1942. In that year Axis submarines were attacking supply vitals of the Americas. Of these supplies, Venezuelan oil was among the most important. U-boats singled out particularly tankers carrying oil. The heavy shipping losses were felt severely in the Venezuelan oil industry. In the interval between the first and second World Wars, oil production had expanded rapidly in Venezuela until it accounted for as much as 90 percent of the country's total exports. Venezuela became one of the world's greatest petroleum exporters. No wonder, then, that U-boats paid special attention to the Caribbean communications in the 1942 effort to sever United Nations' supply lines to this side of the Atlantic.

Under the first impact of the attack, Venezuela's economy, so heavily dependent upon oil exports, suffered severely. Oil production was curtailed as shipping losses mounted. Unemployment rose in the oil industry, the biggest employer of industrial labor in the country. Moreover, the shipping shortage cut food imports. Specializing in the production of oil and such crops as coffee for export, Venezuela for years had been a substantial importer of foodstuffs. Even before the war, living costs were relatively high in Venezuela. The shrinkage in food imports, consequently, was a serious matter for Venezuela.

SHIPPING SHORTAGE PRESENTS PROBLEM

The shipping shortage in 1942 and 1943 was a common hemisphere problem. However, it had varying effects in various countries. Among the hardest hit were Caribbean countries which depended heavily upon shipping to move such products as coffee, oil, bananas, and sugar. At the same time, most of these countries were food importers. Venezuela, with its singular position as an oil exporter, was particularly affected by the shipping shortage. Naturally, therefore, it was among the first to manifest interest when cooperative measures were undertaken to solve the emergency food problem.

These measures essentially followed the pattern of cooperation laid down at the Rio de Janeiro conference of American foreign ministers in January 1942, soon after Pearl Harbor. In line with recommendations of this conference, the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs in the summer of 1942, set up an organization to work with other American republics in food-growing programs. The first food-growing agreement was made in September 1942, with Brazil. The Brazilian agreement called for cooperative measures to increase food production in northern Brazil, site of strategic hemisphere defenses and production of rubber and other strategic materials. Costa Rica, Paraguay, Hon-

C. I. A. A. photo.

Caripito Agricultural Colony. An agricultural worker setting seeds in nursery.

duras, and other hemisphere countries joined in the food-growing work, followed early in 1943 by Venezuela.

In the summer of 1943, a group of United States agricultural specialists arrived in Venezuela to begin a new phase of cooperation in the development of the country's agriculture. The group included experienced agronomists, specialists in animal husbandry, refrigeration, soil conservation, and other work of peculiar interest to Venezuela. Under the food-growing arrangement, Venezuela agreed to contribute $500,000 to match a similar contribution from the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, an agency of the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. This arrangement followed the basic lines of other cooperative agreements between the United States and Latin American countries in health and sanitation and in food-growing programs. These cooperative arrangements were made in recognition of the common interests of the United States and the other Americas in hemisphere defense and economic problems.

A special vehicle was set up in the Venezuelan Ministry of Agriculture to carry out the food work. It is called the Servicio Cooperativo Inter-Americano de Producción de Alimentos, better known now as SCIPA. The United States agricultural specialists were assigned to this cooperative service to work with Venezuelans.

Need for additional food was urgent. As the SCIPA men surveyed their tasks, it was recognized that the emergency afforded opportunity to lay groundwork for longer-range benefits in the improvement of Venezuelan agriculture. Projects, therefore, were worked out with both immediate and long-range objectives in mind. Established agricultural practices cannot be revised overnight. On the contrary, basic improvement in production techniques, whether in agriculture or in other lines of economy, is a long, hard pull. The essential thing was to make a start.

Oil Also Important

Venezuela and oil are synonymous in world trade. Agriculture, however, is still the basis of Venezuela's economy, as it is in the economies of most other American republics. Oil is comparatively recent in Venezuelan economy. Until 1925, coffee, cocoa, and other agricultural exports were more important than petroleum. The tropical climate and soil of the country also are adapted to the growing of cotton, rice, beans, tobacco, fruits, and a wide variety of vegetables. Cattle raising, too, is important in Venezuela.

In an area of approximately 350,000 square miles, Venezuela has a population of only about 4,000,000. The population is concentrated in the northern highlands and in the vicinity of Lake Maracaibo, one of the greatest oil-producing areas in the world. South of the Andean mountain range lies the great Orinoco plain, one of the largest plain regions of South America. Here grass grows lushly and cattle thrive, except for a few months during the very dry season.

C. I. A. A. photo.

Loading docks showing busy shipping. Tall stack in background is one of the shallow-draft ships used to take oil to refineries.

But transportation difficulties have hindered the economic progress of Venezuela, as in so many other Latin American countries. Agriculture developed mainly for export demand and limited internal markets. Venezuela has land resources sufficient to feed its population. Where irrigation can be provided for the dry season, food crops in many places can be grown on an all-year-round basis. Still, Venezuela for years imported a considerable portion of its food supply.

Agricultural Potentialities

Venezuela's Government has been fully aware of the agricultural potentialities of the country. It has recognized, too, the need for greater agricultural production to meet immediate needs and for long-range elevation of living standards. The Government has been engaged in extending its activities to aid agriculture and farm settlement. SCIPA's projects were designed to supplement, and complement, previous activities by Venezuelan Government agencies.

Illustrating the tie-in with existing agricultural activities was the SCIPA project at Chirgua, west of Valencia, where an agricultural colony had been established. Here SCIPA technicians demonstrated methods of land clearing, drainage, terracing, irrigation, improvement of pastures, preparation for planting, and crop rotation. A dipping vat was constructed and tick eradication was promoted to help livestock.

What can be accomplished by the use of modern farm machinery has been demonstrated in other projects. At Tocoron, near Maracay, center of an agricultural region, mechanized production of corn was shown. Here complete production records were kept. Tractors, tractor-drawn cultivators and other farm machines were used. Little work was done by hand, except pulling of the corn. More than 300 acres were cultivated by these mechanized methods, with outstanding results. A variety of corn known as Venezuela No. 1 was used in this project. It is a hard corn, especially good for livestock. Preliminary analysis of the expenses of the mechanized corn production indicated costs of about $25 an acre, which is considerably less than estimated cost of corn production in the area by nonmachine methods. The output averaged two or three times the usual production on similar land cultivated by hand methods. Aside from its demonstration value, this project also yielded more than 122 tons of green corn for sale in the poor districts of Caracas, the capital, in time to be of help in meeting a food shortage.

Corn is a food staple in Venezuela, as in many other Latin American countries. To meet wartime food needs, production of corn has been expanded in Venezuela. The Government has put a minimum price on corn to encourage production. Corn from the Tocoron project, moreover, was sold at the minimum price to help stabilize prices and check rising living costs. Increased production is the most effective check on rising prices. This principle is acknowledged in Venezuela's efforts to expand food production in face of wartime pressure for higher food prices.

The Tocoron corn-growing project is being consolidated into a larger project involving subdivision of land for farm settlers. Some 5,000 acres are being divided into parcels of not less than 125 acres or more than 250 acres. These are sold to settlers who have had training in agriculture. The subdivision project is demonstrating three types of farm credit which have been found practicable in the United States. These are (1) immediate crop production loans, running for about 1 year, for purchase of such things as seed; (2) equipment loans running for as long as 5 years, for purchase of tractors and other types of durable equipment; (3) long-range loans for the purchase of real estate over periods of not less than 20 years. The last

two types of loans are new in Venezuela. The loans are being made through Venezuela's agricultural bank—the Banco Agricola y Pecuario.

Settlers on these parcels are required to make a small down payment. Aside from farming experience, they must be of good moral character and agree to live on the land. Not more than one parcel will be sold to a family. With selection of actual settlers yet to start, there were 180 applications on hand for these parcels and additional applications were coming in every day. After an application is accepted, the settler becomes eligible for three types of credit—short-term, intermediate, and long-range. These three types of credit, it is anticipated, should be helpful in promoting farm ownership.

SCIPA altogether has worked out 18 projects. Among these is a livestock-breeding station at San Carlos, using a Creole cow for crossing with Hereford, Santa Gertrudis, and Zebu in improving Venezuelan cattle. Other projects demonstrate pasture improvement and management, installation of irrigation, swine breeding, land reclamation, refrigerated food and seed storage, distribution of vegetable seeds, home economics, cattle-parasite control, and fish distribution. Near Maracay and El Sombrero, various types of small farm storage units, mostly made of local materials, are being tested to determine the type most suitable for individual farm storage in Venezuela. Some are made of brick, others of mud or wood. Storage of crops is one of the most effective ways of stabilizing prices. Where storage is available, surpluses may be held off the market for sale in seasons and years of deficient supply.

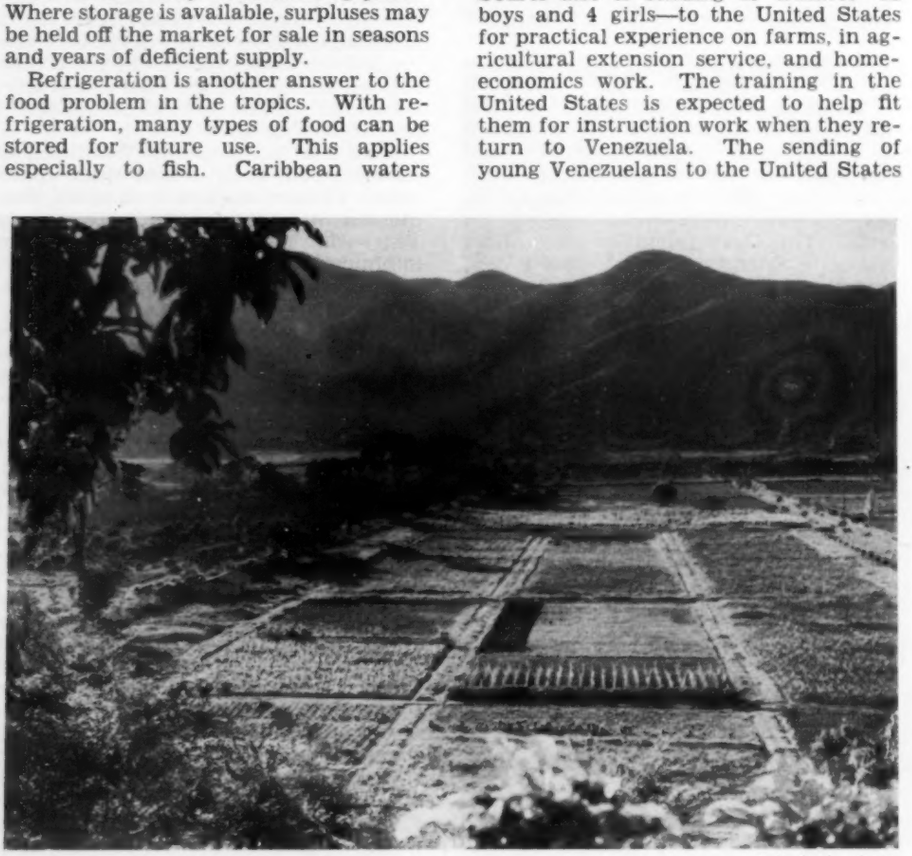
Refrigeration is another answer to the food problem in the tropics. With refrigeration, many types of food can be stored for future use. This applies especially to fish. Caribbean waters hold abundant fisheries resources. These are important now to substitute for scarce meat. A Caribbean fisheries survey financed by the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs has shown the possibilities for developing these resources. Venezuela, as a matter of fact, has been developing fisheries resources as a source of additional food. To aid fish distribution in Caracas, SCIPA is cooperating with the local government to show the use of refrigerated push carts. These portable refrigeration units, it is expected, will increase fish in the market, improve the quality, and reduce prices. In Venezuela, as in other countries, fish is a substitute for meat. Other refrigeration projects involve the installation of portable units in the municipal market at Maracaibo, primarily for the storage of fresh meats, fruits, and vegetables. At other distribution points, refrigeration units are being installed for use by farmer cooperatives. These will be especially useful in the handling of dairy products. At Gonzalito, near Maracay, storage of seed by refrigeration is being demonstrated.

Training is the core of agricultural improvement. SCIPA's training work is modeled closely after work in the United States. In the Montalban and Miranda valleys, extension services in agriculture and home economics are being shown. This work is similar to agricultural extension services in the United States. Home demonstration agents are being trained for work in rural areas throughout Venezuela. SCIPA also is sending 15 trainees—11 boys and 4 girls—to the United States for practical experience on farms, in agricultural extension service, and home-economics work. The training in the United States is expected to help fit them for instruction work when they return to Venezuela. The sending of young Venezuelans to the United States for agricultural training follows the considerable success which has been achieved in similar training of young Brazilians and nationals from other American republics. For the long run, this type of training brings especially good results.

Most of SCIPA's staff are Venezuelans. The 11 staff members from the United States are specialists mainly in agronomy, home economics, refrigeration, storage, livestock, farm management, and dairying. They work with 65 Venezuelan nationals in agricultural professional, subprofessional, and administrative work.

Conclusion

The cooperative food-growing arrangement between Venezuela and the United States runs to mid-1945. Much of the work begun under this program, however, is expected to continue entirely in Venezuelan hands. The training of professional personnel and demonstration projects, particularly, yield results which endure. In a wartime emergency, Venezuela has taken new steps forward for the improvement of agriculture and living standards. As a leading oil producer, Venezuela's contribution to United Nations' victory and world economy is obvious. And, from all indications, Venezuela's oil will remain the keystone of its export trade. Still, improvement in internal economy and raising of living standard will depend in large part upon the improvement of food production. Venezuela is conscious of that fact. Blessed with extraordinary mineral riches, Venezuela also can make its soil yield more food for its people. Its determination to do that is best illustrated by the work now going on toward the modernization of Venezuelan agriculture.



C. I. A. A. photo.

General view of part of El Vallee Experimental Farm.

Education in Household Electric Power and Appliances (Scotland), U. K.

A scheme for the training of girls in the proper use of electricity in the household was proposed by the North of Scotland Hydroelectric Board recently, according to the British press. Young women from the Highlands will be sent to domestic-science colleges, where they will gain a proper insight, not only of domestic economy, but into the scientific methods of cooking by electricity, and also will be trained in the use and maintenance of electrical appliances, after which they will be put in charge of districts.

Brighter Colors for Spring, U. K.

The range of colors for spring and summer issued by the British Colour Council introduces brighter shades and suggests the variety and range of the dyestuffs still available for export and civilian use, says a British chemical publication.

Development of the British dyestuffs industry in recent years is the principal factor in the present trend.

Fragrant Oils Exported From India and Ceylon

By MARIAN DRAKE HALL, *Industrial Projects Unit, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce*

INDIA HAS LONG BEEN FAMOUS for rich, heavily scented perfumes. Indian aromatics were among the favorites of Queen Elizabeth of England, and Mary of Scotland ordered her bath made fragrant with them. Ghazipur, Jaunpur, and Kanauj were known once throughout the world as centers of the perfume and fragrant-oil industry.

Today many valuable oils are being exported from India, although the perfume and essential-oil production has been overshadowed somewhat by the development of modern techniques for obtaining the oils, especially in the United States and Europe, as well as by the manufacture of synthetic perfumes. Sandalwood, lemon-grass, palmarosa, and cardamom are the principal oils shipped from India.

Popular Sandalwood

Since the fifth century, B. C., sandalwood has been used in many ways, particularly as incense in the religious ceremonies of the Buddhist and Hindu cults, which are widespread in India. At the funerals of wealthy Indians, sandal incense is usually burned and sandal paste is daubed on the foreheads of the dead. Most Indian perfume compositions contain some oil of sandalwood.

Mysore, a State in the Southern part of India, is the home of the sandalwood tree, *Santalum album*, which also flourishes in Coorg Province, west of the city of Mysore. The sandalwood is an evergreen, sometimes reaching a height of 40 feet. These trees are State property in Mysore and Coorg, and the Forest Department of the State of Mysore has a special agency to supervise sandalwood plantations and to investigate improvements in methods of production. Before the first World War, the interest of the Mysore government in sandalwood was limited to selling the wood, but since then the government has opened several factories for production of the oil. They are located in Mysore, which has the largest modern distillation factory in the world, and in other sections of India.

In general, steam distillation is employed to obtain the crude oil from the wood which has been crushed into powder. The oil is then refined and stored in a cool room. Before it is sold it is rigidly tested to insure high quality.

Annual production of sandalwood oil in the State of Mysore has been estimated at approximately 200,000 pounds. A considerable percentage of the entire Indian production is exported. In the fiscal year 1937–38, 119,634 pounds of the oil were shipped abroad and in 1938–39, 87,290 pounds. Before the present conflict, Japan, the United States, and the United Kingdom were India's best customers for this product. In the calendar year 1940 the United States imported 3,700 pounds of sandalwood oil from India, the amount purchased in 1941 rising abruptly to 36,020 pounds. No shipments to the United States were reported in 1943–44.

Sandalwood oil is becoming increasingly popular as a perfume material because of the effects achieved through its use. It imparts a sweet, woody order to heavy oriental perfumes, giving them a certain warmth. Patchouli, vetiver, geranium, musk—with all of these, sandalwood oil blends well. One of the oldest techniques known to perfumers of India is that of manufacturing attars by employing oil of sandalwood in varying proportions.

In the past few years, in order to reduce costs and thus compete successfully with European perfumes, foreign synthetic preparations have been used to a large extent in the attars. Nevertheless, certain pure attars have gained increasing commercial importance. From the henna shrub, also called hinna or mehndi, familiar as the source of a red-dish-orange rouge, nail, and hair dye used first by the ancient Egyptians and Asiatics, two attars are prepared—one, attar of mehndi, and the other, attar of hinna. Before the current war, one Indian firm started production of toilet soap perfumed with these attars. These preparations also have been used in eau de Cologne and lavender water.

Courtesy Fritzsche Brothers, Inc.

Interior view of the Government's Sandal-Oil Factory, Mysore, India.

Other materials, such as attar of genda or marigold, kewda attar, and mango-flower attar may find increased use in Indian perfumes. Successful experiments combining the mango-flower attar in eau de Cologne, rose perfumes, lilac odors, and fougère types, conducted by an Indian chemist, may lead to new and unusual creations in oriental perfumes.

Lemon-Grass Oil

Southern India is also the principal source of lemon-grass oil. Production of the grass centers around the Malabar district and Travancore, where Cochin is the port of shipment.

Lemon grass grows wild and also is cultivated in India, the first crop being ready for harvest early in the summer. The distillation season usually extends through January, when four or five cuttings have been made. Furnaces and stills are located near the plantations. Although crude methods of distillation are still prevalent, for the most part, the Travancore government is reported to have carried on research for developing an inexpensive process of refining the crude oil, which has greatly increased the value of the refined oil. Small-scale distillation of lemon-grass oil is thriving in Kashmir, in northern India.

Normal production of lemon-grass oil in Travancore has averaged about 400 long tons annually. Of India's combined exports of this commodity amounting to more than 301 long tons in the year ended March 1938, 25 percent was consigned to the United Kingdom, 22 percent to the United States, and the remainder to Germany, the Netherlands, France, and Japan. In 1941, 245 long tons of lemon-grass oil were imported into the United States from India, an increase over the amount purchased in 1940. Though wartime shipping difficulties now have forced the United States to turn to closer regions for part of its supply, India is maintaining its position as the principal world source of lemon-grass oil.

The oil, a pale sherry color, usually contains 70 to 80 percent of citral, important for the isolation of ionones or synthetic violet odors, which are useful in perfumes and soap. Lemon-grass oil

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itself is used to give a light oriental odor to soaps, cold creams, eau de Cologne, toilet waters, and inexpensive hair oils and pomades. The scent blends pleasingly with lemon, petitgrain, orange, and bergamot, and is especially useful in rose compounds and carnation types, as well as in fragrances in which fresh verbena-like effects are desired.

Cardamom Oil

Cardamom oil is distilled from the seed of *Elettaria cardamomum*, Maton, which thrives in the rich, moist forests bordering the coast lines of southern and southwestern India. This bush is probably related to the species mentioned by Pliny, the Roman naturalist who lived during the first century, A. D. The cardamom known today is a large, perennial herb with thick, branching fibrous roots. Its leafy stems sometimes reach a height of 6 to 12 feet. Cardamom plantations need elevation (2,500 to 5,000 feet is best), shade, and water. The cultivation of cardamoms is carried on largely in small holdings on "patch" farms. In southern India many producers raise cardamoms together with coffee trees or on tea and rubber plantations. In 1940 more than 21,000 acres in Mysore were reported to have been devoted to the production of cardamoms.

A colorless, or very pale yellow, volatile liquid with a strong odor results from the distillation of cardamom seeds. Green cardamoms yield more oil than the bleached fruit, and unusually fine results reportedly are obtained from green cardamoms in the region of Alleppey. No distilleries for the oil are maintained in India; both United States and European essential-oil houses distill the oil from imported dried seeds. In 1941, 265,244 pounds of the seeds were imported into the United States from British India, a considerable increase over the 196,302 pounds entering the country during 1940.

Cardamom oil, characterized by a pungent, spicy odor, is used in small quantities as a modifier in perfumes, especially in eau de Cologne and chypre compositions.

Courtesy Fritzsche Brothers, Inc.

Distillation of lemon-grass oil in South India, showing the wooden container with the condenser inside. In the background is the still.

French Essential-Oil Supplies

French firms, which are branches of Grasse interests, the principal brokers handling essential oils and the largest producers of French perfumes, with subsidiary manufacturing enterprises in the United States, report that only from 10 to 20 percent of the floral oils normally required by the United States will be available, according to preliminary advice received by the Department of Commerce from its representative in France. These firms indicate that if alcohol, retail bottles, and foreign essential oils were freely available, the French perfume industry would probably consume all of Grasse production.

Some well-informed French industry sources state that a maximum of only 50 percent of United States requirements of lavender and lavandine will be available, while other authorities are of the opinion that these two oils can be exported from France up to 100 percent of United States needs. Additional essential oils indigenous to France may be available up to a maximum of 50 percent of our requirements, but the percentage will vary greatly on individual oils. The jasmine and rose crops have not yet been fully collected.

The French perfume manufacturers also face shortages because the season has been one of crop and production deficits, as a result of diversion of female labor from flower gathering to better-paid positions, and of the lack of coal, solvents, and fertilizers. Only a 50-percent harvest of flowers was obtained from a full planting, and the price doubled; furthermore, the cost of flowers obtained from peasants was high, as no price limits were imposed by the Government.

Because all conflicting statements in the preliminary information appear valid, a check is being made in Grasse and lavender-producing regions for clarification.

None of the factories in Grasse reportedly were structurally damaged by the war. Coal, solvents, labor, flowers, and transportation facilities, however, are greatly needed.

Other Perfume Oils

Southern India produces many other essential-oil-bearing shrubs, grasses, and flowers. Oil of vetiver, or khus oil, is obtained from the roots of the grass, *Vetiveria zizanioides*, indigenous to the Malabar coast. Most of India's vetiver oil is distilled by crude methods for use in domestic perfumes. Because modern steam distillation produces the best oil, the small proportion of the roots exported is shipped to foreign concerns for manufacture of the essence. As yet, no systematic effort toward cultivation of the roots has been made, although it has been said that greater emphasis on exporting the oil is very possible.

The fragrance of vetiver has a faint suggestion of myrrh. The oil and aromatics derived from it are finding increased use as fixatives and as modifiers of other odors such as the rose and opopanax. A compound of vetiver and patchouli forms an excellent base for oriental perfumes. In addition, many face-powder perfumes contain oil of vetiver.

Cloves were familiar to the Chinese in the third century, B. C., when the officers of the court, for aesthetic reasons, held the spice in the mouth before speaking to the Emperor. Although clove buds are probably best known as spices, small amounts of clove-bud oil are exported from India for use in perfumery. The clove tree grows abundantly in the foothills of the Western Ghats in the Madras Presidency, but no use is made of modern techniques of cultivation.

The Central Provinces are the chief sources of India's palmarosa oil, often called oil of geranium, East Indian, because its odor is somewhat similar to that of the geranium. This oil is known as Turkish oil in some localities for the reason that in former days a swift trade in the product was carried on between Europe and the East, via Turkish ports.

The oil is distilled from the flower heads of the Motia (precious) variety of the grass, *Cymbapogon martini*. The major portion of the distilled oil comes from grass which grows wild on the plains near river banks; cultivation is said to result in loss of the essential oil after the first rotation. The usual apparatus for distillation consists of crude copper or iron cauldrons built into stone fireplaces which are shaded by roofs. Most of the oil is exported, annual foreign sales averaging 9,000 gallons. Leading pre-war customers were the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and the United States. In 1940 India supplied the United States with 1,680 gallons of palmarosa oil, about 120 gallons less than in 1939.

Palmarosa oil, characterized by rose and geranium-like notes, is used to scent soaps, cosmetics, and perfumes, and also as the most important source of pure geraniol, which in turn is employed in imparting fragrances to soaps and perfumes. The oil blends effectively with other ingredients, such as clove, cassia, patchouli, and the Bulgarian rose attar. Especially pleasing results are accomplished by mixing palmarosa oil with Algerian geranium oil.

Northwestern India is the principal habitat of the costus plant, or kuth. This shrub—a tall, herbaceous perennial, 5 to 7 feet in height, with large radical leaves bearing blue-black flowers and designated botanically as *Saussurea lappa*, Clarke—is found in the Kishengang valley in Kashmir and in the higher elevations around the Chenab valley. A valuable and rare essential oil is derived from the roots.

The costus root is dug in September and October and divided into pieces 3 to 4 inches long, which are then dried and stored in warehouses. Estimates of annual production are approximately 2,000,000 pounds.

Most of the costus root either is shipped to China, where it has been used for centuries as incense in the temples, or is employed domestically to scent the world-famed Kashmir shawls as a protection against insects. Only a small percentage is exported to Europe and the United States for distillation.

In perfumes, the warm, violet-like odor of costus oil is especially effective in the light floral oriental types, blending well with vetiver, patchouli, rose, and geranium. About 1 percent compounded with violet attars gives them a very unique character.

India's wealth of resources yields other fragrant oils which enter the market in smaller quantities than the products previously discussed. In 1942 the United States was reported to have obtained some fennel oil from India. This oil is employed in limited amounts in compounding perfumes for soaps and occasionally in the manufacture of the fougere-type of fancy perfume. Celery oil is likewise used in fragrant bouquets, such as sweet pea. British India is one of the largest producers of celery seeds.

A high-grade oil of geranium recently has been exported from India, but only because of the loss of other sources. Limited quantities of orange oil are now distilled in India; two factories were reported in operation during 1941. Small-scale production of lemon oil and lime oil has been started and Bangalore is said to be offering linaloe oil of very good quality.

Oils From Ceylon

Across the Gulf of Manar, southeast of India, lies the island of Ceylon, noted for its teas, spices, and fragrant oils. Of the last-named, the most important is citronella oil, produced from citronella grass, which is grown principally in the Southern Province of the island. In 1941, 33,000 acres, the greater portion controlled by the Ceylonese, were reported being cultivated in the grass. Twice a year, or even three times in good years, the grass can be cut. One acre should produce annually at least 40 pounds of commercially satisfactory oil.

Ceylonese citronella oil was first distilled from *Cymbopogon nardus*, Rendle, but because of sharp competition from the finer and less expensive Java oil, derived from *Cymbopogon winterianus*, cultivation of the latter plant in Ceylon has been widely developed. Nevertheless, Java has surpassed Ceylon in output of this oil.

Estimates of Ceylon's production of citronella oil in 1943 averaged about 1,100,000 pounds. The chief pre-war customers were the United States, Great Britain, France, and Germany. At the present time the United States and British India are the two most important purchasers, but the quantity of oil shipped to the United States has declined during the past few years, amounting to only 171,619 pounds in 1941, a considerable reduction from 388,218 pounds in 1940.

The sweet, refreshing odor of citronella oil finds special use in less expensive soaps. Citronella oil, Java-type, is also in great demand as a source of geraniol, a basic ingredient in perfumes. Several synthetic substitutes for the oil, however, have met with success on the market.

The cinnamon tree is indigenous to Ceylon where both leaf and bark oil are produced. In 1941 the land devoted to cultivation in cinnamon trees amounted to about 26,000 acres. The majority of units averaged about 10 or 25 acres, only a few plantations numbering more than 100 acres. The most systematic cultivation is carried out, of course, on the large estates.

Cinnamon-leaf oil is a bright yellow liquid with an odor of both cinnamon and cloves, distilled from the leaves of *Cinnamomum zeylanicum*, Nees. During 1944 production of cinnamon-leaf oil declined on account of the lack of synthetic fertilizers and the diversion of labor to the more lucrative rubber industry. Distillation of the dried inner bark of *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* produces cinnamon-bark oil, less extensively used in commerce than the leaf oil. Cinnamon bark appears on the market either as "quills" (sticks) or as "chips" (waste).

Because Ceylonese methods of distillation of the cinnamon oil are crude, European and United States houses prefer to import the raw materials. Exports of quills and chips, therefore, far exceed those of oils. In 1941 the United States purchased 68,811 pounds of cinnamon-leaf oil and 321 pounds of other types of cinnamon oils from Ceylon. During the same year 3,257,858 pounds of cinnamon itself were imported from Ceylon by the United States.

The cinnamon oils lend a spicy note to oriental composition and may be blended with carnation, sandal, orris, and other heavy odors to produce choice bouquets. They are by no means new to perfumers, for a writer in the third century, B. C. described the perfume "Megaleion" as containing, among other elements, oil of cinnamon mixed with oil of myrrh and cassia oil.

Cardamoms are cultivated in Ceylon as well as in India. According to recent data, 6,000 acres are planted in these herbs. During the last few years production has decreased because investments have been directed to the more profitable rubber and copra industries. The United States bought 109,005 pounds of cardamom seeds from Ceylon in 1941, a large increase over the amount purchased in 1940.

Ceylon is among the leading world suppliers of lemon-grass oil, and in 1941 the United States imported 17,920 pounds of the oil from that country.

Post-War Prospects

With the reopening of trade channels after the war, Europe and the United States will again obtain many familiar essential oils from India and Ceylon. Moreover, if demand is sufficient, certain oils now being processed merely as a wartime measure in these regions may maintain their commercial importance in the future.

Courtesy Fritzsche Brothers, Inc.

A still used in making palmarosa oil. (India.)

Social Welfare in Peru

By the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

SOCIAL WELFARE in the form of low-rent housing, medical services, social security, school lunches, and many other activities is progressing on a wide front in Peru. A government program of social benefits, charted during the middle thirties, is producing low-cost houses for laborers, inexpensive meals in workers' restaurants, modern hospitals, and free health centers throughout Peru.

Regulations providing for pensions and for sickness, accident, and maternity benefits for workers have been expanded until it is now estimated that 250,000 workers out of a total national population of 7,000,000 are covered by some form of security. Approximately 70 percent of the individuals are agricultural workers.

Although hundreds of thousands of Peru's workers are still untouched by the compulsory security laws, an important beginning has been made. Moreover, while Peru's activity in behalf of the underprivileged segment of its population is a very recent development, the nation has a historical precedent for such action dating from the time of the Incan Empire.

That the Incas had social security is recorded by the chronicler, Blas Valera. "The Incas," he said, "had a law in favor of those they called the poor, stating that blind, dumb, lame, paralyzed, old and decrepit persons, those long ill, and others with impediments that did not permit them to work the land, should be fed from public stores."

Except for the supreme decrees issued in 1850 and 1851, providing limited pensions and payments for surviving members of the family of a government employee, there was practically no governmental action to provide security for workers until in recent years.

Comprehensive Program

In 1936, the National Congress approved the comprehensive compulsory social-benefits program as drawn up by Dr. Edgardo Rebagliati, now director of the Caja Nacional de Segura Social, or the National Social Security Fund. Administration of the various activities being carried on under these regulations has been centralized in the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare. The program was designed to benefit the low-income laboring class and applies to persons of either sex between the ages of 14 and 60, employed in industry, commerce, agriculture, and in government services. Those earning more than 3,000 soles annually are excluded, and those earning less than 1 sol daily are relieved from the payment of the social-security tax. The sol, at the present rate of exchange, is worth about 15 cents.

The National Social Security Fund, which is charged with the responsibility of administering insurance, benefits, and hospital care, had reserves at the beginning of 1942 of 20,630,655 soles. Up to that time a total of 12,480,977 soles had been spent for workers' hospitals and clinics, and 6,465,910 soles were allocated for new construction.

Employees contribute 1½ percent of their salary to the fund, the employer 3½ percent, and a 1-percent contribution is made by the Government. Funds for administrative expenses only are received from a special 1-percent documentary stamp tax, a 2-percent tobacco tax, a 2-percent levy on alcoholic beverages, and from the collection of fines imposed for violations of certain laws. Total collections reported in 1942 amounted to 7,771,718 soles. Payments for sickness and accidents, maternity, and death in 1942 amounted to 4,017,568 soles.

Benefits to Workers

Today, a Peruvian workman in Lima having a wife and two children, may live in one of the newly constructed workers' homes for as little as 10 soles monthly for a two-bedroom apartment. He may pay as high as 50 soles for an apartment or a house with four bedrooms. Through small monthly payments he may acquire ownership of this house in 20 years.

If a worker is ill he may go to a workers' clinic for diagnosis; if hospital treatment is required, he may enter the 607-bed Workers' Hospital in Lima or a similar institution elsewhere in the country.

For an extra payment of 2 percent of his wages, a workman may arrange to have his entire family covered by insurance that will give them similar sickness benefits.

A worker receives 50 percent of his salary during the first 4 weeks of illness and 40 percent thereafter. Women workers on maternity leave receive payments of 50 percent of their salary for 2 months and lesser payments during a leave period of 6 months. In addition, a milk allowance of 25 percent of their salary is given for 8 months after childbirth, payable either in cash or milk.

If a worker reaches the age of 60 and has maintained his contributions to the insurance fund for 20 years, he may retire on a pension amounting to 40 percent of his salary during the last 5 years of employment. Proportionate payments are made if his payments have been for less than 20 years.

At his death, the workman's survivors receive a fixed sum for funeral expenses and a lump-sum payment equal to 33 percent of his annual salary.

Medical Care

Care of the sick is one of the Government's major undertakings. In the field of hospital construction, the most impressive accomplishment has been the building of the Workers' Hospital in Lima. This hospital, completed in 1941, is for lower-income workers of the metropolitan district. More than 19,000 patients were treated in 1942 and 324,000 examinations were made. During the first 10 months of its operation, 40 percent of the patients admitted were suffering from ailments of from 3 to 10 years' duration.

C. I. A. A. photo.

The modern Hospital Obrero of Lima, Peru, has a capacity of 607 beds. Constructed in 1941 by the Government for the benefit of low-income workers.

C. I. A. A. photo.

Workers' dwellings in the Barrio Obrero No. 3 of Lima, Peru, constructed for low-income workers by the Government.

Other workers' hospitals are functioning in Chancay, Ica, and Callao, while still others are being built at Chiclayo, Arequipa, Piura, Huariaca, Oroya, Chocope, Canete, and Chincha. Hospitals and clinics now available have a total capacity of 2,098 beds and provide as many as 5,000 examinations daily.

Obstetrical service also is provided in workers' homes. In some rural areas dispensaries have been established, while doctors tour farms and villages on regular circuits checking the health of agricultural and industrial workers.

Nutritious Meals Available

The popular-priced restaurants are an important activity in the Government's program. Six restaurants have been opened in Lima, one has been established in the port of Callao, and another is in operation in the mining center of Oroya. Some of these restaurants serve 4,000 meals a day and others as many as 8,000. For 20 centavos (about 3 cents) a worker may obtain a meal consisting of soup and a meat dish with vegetables, tea or coffee, and bread. A meal consisting of three dishes costs 30 centavos.

From January to June of last year, 6,597 free school lunches were provided daily in 38 provincial locations, and 4,000 lunches were served in 36 schools.

In Lima, during this same period, 1,765,000 free lunches for school children were provided.

Food for infants is distributed under the direction of social workers who visit the homes of lower-paid workers regularly. A school to train women specialists in this type of work has been opened in Lima. Young women who receive instruction at this school are taught to give practical help in hygiene, nutrition, sewing, and other problems of the home.

Housing Developments

Construction of housing is a problem that has occupied the attention of many government officials for years. In Lima and in the adjacent port of Callao four developments of workers' homes are under construction, comprising 1,271 houses and apartments to house 8,811 individuals. The largest development in the metropolitan area is the Bolognesi district along the Rimac River, where 262 homes and apartments were built at a cost of 950,000 soles.

In the nearby Victoria development, a swimming pool and a sports field have been constructed. An instructor in physical education is maintained on full-time duty at the field. As there are long waiting lists, new tenants are selected by lottery.

Thus Peru, like many republics of the Western Hemisphere, has taken important steps toward raising the national standard of living and providing security for its workers.

U. S. S. R. Saves Its Oil

(Continued from p. 5)

claimed that reserves are enormous, some single raions having as much as 20,000,000 metric tons.

Exploitation of this resource was begun in 1940, well after the beginning of strict censorship of news. Therefore, detailed information on size and importance of plants is not available. Recently, however, Soviet press reports have given some general information on the subject.

Fuel is obtained through a process involving two steps. In the first step the sapropele is heated in ovens of semicoking plants. This distillation yields 35 percent powdered coke, 40 percent ammoniacal water, 13 percent high-calory peat gas, and 12 percent tar. The tar is treated to yield liquid fuels and other products. In the early months of operations, products obtained were 10 percent gasoline, 25 percent kerosene, 20 percent motor fuel, little more than 10 percent paraffin, small quantities of pyridine bases and a residue of pitch. Methods have been greatly improved, it is reported, and at present gasoline obtained through initial treatment and crackling amounts to 25 percent, by weight, of the sapropele.

It is not known just where plants are located, but they are believed to be rather wide-spread in the peat areas. Late dispatches say that 11 sapropele factories built in the Siberian Taiga are producing gasoline, ligroine (a tractor fuel), and kerosene which are serving vehicles operating throughout the Yakut, Buriat-Mongol, and Trans-Baikal regions.

Other Synthetic Products

Soviet Russia is producing synthetic liquid fuels from various other sources in many places, according to reports, but information is restricted as to the location and output of most of the plants. Ukraine coking plants may have been reconditioned and production of benzol resumed. It is highly probable that coking plants in Kuznetsk and new coal areas east of the Urals are producing some quantities of benzol or other light fuels to serve in motors as an additive to other fuels.

It is claimed that a process has been developed which makes possible the utilization of brown coal to yield synthetic fuels, making possible a wider distribution of synthetic oil plants and broader use of synthetic oil products. One such factory was scheduled to go into operation during the second quarter of 1944 near the Dzhergalan mine in Kirgizia, and at least one new plant has been built at Karaganda in Kazakhstan. Large deposits of brown coal exist near Moscow and in many other areas, and it may be presumed that a number of these are being worked for materials for production of synthetic fuels. Installations in the Ukraine probably at Kharkov, treat brown coal by the Bergius method.

Soviet Russia has almost unlimited resources of peat and oil shale, the latter being found in the Leningrad Oblast, near the Volga, in Kazakhstan ,and in the Trans-Caucasus. Both peat and shale are semicoked to yield a tar from which liquid fuels are obtained. One such plant has been established in the Issyk-Kul Oblast, according to reports. Before the war, ambitious plans had been made to undertake commercial production of shale oil, but little is known about the present status of the shale-oil industry.

Turpentine is being used in several areas. No engine adjustment is necessary for its utilization, but the product must be highly purified for removal of gummy substances. A number of plants for production of turpentine from stump pitch have been built in Northern Russia and Western Siberia, and recent information indicates that one plant has been completed at Khapcheranga in the Chita Oblast.

Agriculture a Large Consumer

Agriculture has long been the greatest consumer of oil products in Soviet Russia. Before the war, agricultural activities accounted for 66 percent of the

(Continued on p. 34)

Late AIRGRAMS

Reports Submitted by Offices (in Latin America) of the Foreign Service

Columbia

(From the U. S. Embassy, Bogota)

In appraising the results of the year 1944 for Colombia, leading economists agree that it was notable for continued commercial and industrial development, despite the difficulties created by the war. Some of the domestic industries that have particularly been benefited during the past 12 months are textiles, leather, clothing, pharmaceutical products, beverages, cigarettes, glass, perfumery, cement, brick, and metal working. Although statistics are not yet available, it is estimated that industrial production surpassed by 25 or 30 percent the volume of the preceding year. Crude-oil production for 1944 was almost double the total for 1943, and gold production equaled the volume of the preceding year, despite difficulties in obtaining machinery and equipment. The farming and livestock industries also enjoyed a year of exceptional prosperity, with record prices for almost the entire range of farm products.

Investment and financial activity in Colombia was outstanding during 1944. Total volume of transactions registered on the Bogota stock exchange reached 106,000,000 pesos, in comparison with the previous record of 89,000,000 pesos in 1943. The average value index of all shares quoted on the Exchange increased during the year from 167.8 to 203. In 1941 the index stood at 120. This increase in values is attributed partly to the inflation, but also to increased earnings and improved position of most domestic industries.

Over 50,000,000 pesos, it is estimated, were invested during the past year in new Colombian enterprises. This represents an increase of 8,000,000 pesos over the volume for 1943. In addition, a large number of Colombian enterprises increased capital to provide for enlargement of production or other activities. Investments in real estate were heavy during the year and substantially passed the volume of 1943, and the amount of capital invested in new construction almost doubled that of the preceding year.

In contrast to the favorable developments that have been mentioned, observers point out the following adverse factors of 1944. First, inflation has been steadily increasing throughout the year. The circulating medium, which stood at 168,000,000 pesos at the beginning of the year, reached 208,000,000 pesos by November. Secondly, the cost of living has maintained an almost uninterrupted upward trend. Third, agricultural production has decreased despite exceptional prices for farm products. This is attributed partly to unfavorable weather conditions, but in major degree to the movement of farm labor to the industrial centers and to the lack of farm machinery. Fourth, the transportation situation of the country is continuing to deteriorate as the shortage of trucks and busses becomes more acute.

According to the Office of Exchange, Export and Import Control, the balance of payments for 1944 in Colombia produced an export balance of $45,543,081.37 (U. S. currency), a decrease of approximately $13,000,000 as compared with 1943.

Effective January 1, 1945, the Office of Exchange, Export and Import Control has announced that all applications for import licenses must be accompanied by a copy of the order which the license is intended to cover. This requirement is attributed to the Government's desire to keep a closer check on the quantities of machinery, equipment, and raw materials that are being imported.

Replacing the previous practice of dividing the Colombian budget into two parts, the ordinary and extraordinary budgets, a consolidated budget totaling 171,912,406.11 pesos has been passed to cover the year 1945. A deficit of 55,000,000 pesos in this budget will be provided by credit operations, probably in the form of internal loans. If compared with the ordinary and extraordinary budgets of 1944, together with the respective increases that were made during the course of the past 12 months, all of which totaled 200,586,110.05 pesos, the new budget represents a substantial reduction in expenditures.

The difficult transportation situation in Colombia has become considerably worse in recent weeks. The lack of a sufficiently deep channel at the mouth of the Magdalena River at Bocas de Ceniza has prevented the entry of deep-draft ocean-going vessels to the port of Barranquilla. Shipping has consequently been routed to a greater extent through Cartagena, which in turn has become congested. Congestion also set in at the port of Buenaventura, on the West Coast, with the result that many steamer calls to these ports recently have been canceled. It is reported that there have been substantial unloadings at the Canal Zone, however, which eventually will be transshipped to Colombia. Interior conditions have also become more difficult, particularly on the highway connection between Armenia and Ibague of the Eastern and Western railway systems. Shortage of trucks has produced congestion of merchandise at Armenia, which in turn is hindering relief to the Buenaventura situation. Importers in Bogota report that it is now taking a minimum of 45 days to receive import merchandise after arrival at Colombian ports.

Colombian Government officials are actively engaged in efforts to improve these conditions and various remedial steps are being taken. Among others, freight-rate increases have been allowed on the Magdalena River and on the truck haul from Armenia to Ibague. At a recent convention of Colombian engineers held in Medellin during December, it was recommended that a new highway be constructed between Buenaventura and Buga to assist in permanently removing the causes of congestion at that port.

By decree signed shortly before the end of the year, and in answer to repeated requests of business and industrial groups in Colombia, a new Customs Commission has been created to study and recommend changes in the Colombian customs tariff for submission to the Colombian Congress. The customs administration also has been instructed to work with the new commission in these studies. It is planned not only to modernize the Colombian tariff but to provide more effective customs protection for industries established in the country.

The coffee market in Colombia has become more active since the refusal of the Office of Price Administration to increase ceiling prices of coffee in the United States, and sales from growers and speculators to the exporters have been greater in volume. President Lopez, addressing the Fourteenth Annual Coffee Congress held in Ibague in December, emphasized the necessity of paying higher wages to coffee plantation labor irrespective of increased prices in the United States. Nevertheless, the agitation among growers to press for higher selling prices has apparently diminished since the initiation of the German counter-offensive in Europe and the indication of a greater delay in the opening of European coffee markets.

Costa Rica

(From U. S. Embassy, San Jose)

Despite a number of adverse economic factors, Costa Rican retail trade was brisk during the Christmas holiday season. Some retail stores reported that daily sales were more than five times as great as in November 1944, and considerably more than in December 1943.

Some economic problems continue to demand attention. Railway traffic on the Northern Railway Line between San Jose and Port Limon, the country's principal port on the east coast, continues to be suspended and many merchants are unable to obtain goods which have arrived at that port of entry. As a result of this situation and the consequent loss in customs duties, Government revenues in November and December were nearly 50 percent below those of the corresponding period of 1943.

The shortages of sugar and corn and the attendant high prices of these and other basic food commodities were not alleviated during December, despite Government efforts to augment supplies and control prices. The sugar situation, however, should be relieved shortly, since the local grinding season started in late December and sizable imports of sugar from Cuba and Guatemala are expected to be made soon.

Coffee continued to be withheld from export during December because of the hope of producers and dealers that the United States ceiling prices would be raised. It is believed, however, that the definite announcement at the end of the year that ceiling prices would not be lifted will induce exporters to resume coffee shipments on a large scale.

Continuing stagnation in the building trades is attributed to the scarcity of cement and certain other building materials.

Cuba

(From U. S. Embassy, Habana)

The favorable over-all trend of Cuban economic conditions has been well maintained and the value (and probably also the volume) of retail trade during the holiday season reached the highest level in the history of the Republic. While some uncertainty exists in sugar circles because of the continued delay in successfully concluded the negotiations for the sale of the forthcoming Cuban sugar crop, the grinding of which began on January 15, this has had an appreciable effect on crop preparation or on the general business movement.

The drought which began in November continued through December and has retarded sugarcane growth and has caused poor pasture for livestock. Milk and dairy production is declining sharply, causing Cuban authorities to seek foreign supplies and to establish import-duty reductions and exemptions in order to encourage imports.

The cost of living in Cuba has changed little since the inauguration of President Grau last October. Supplies of foodstuffs have been reasonably adequate, and a renewed effort to enforce price control measures has produced beneficial results. The present seasonal decline in the production of certain foodstuffs, however, together with the increasing purchasing power during the sugar-grinding season may be expected to place a severe strain on price control policies and make it difficult to avoid at least moderate increases in the cost of certain articles of prime necessity.

Labor agitation continued and sugar workers are actively pressing their demands for a 40 percent increase over 1944 wages for mill workers and for at least a 10 percent increase for cane-field workers. Sugar workers also are demanding a share in the mills' proceeds for the sale of black strap molasses, thus emulating sugarcane growers who have made similar demands.

The procedure for dismissing or suspending workers was modified by a Cuban Government decree designed to guarantee laborers against unjustified dismissals and/or suspension. The decree seeks to protect workers against the practice attributed to some employers of hiring, dismissing, and reemploying laborers in order to prevent them from becoming entitled to the social benefits accruing to permanent employees.

The Cabinet passed a resolution providing for Government occupation and operation of brick yards and tiles factories damaged by the October 18 hurricane which failed to resume operations. Such Government intervention reportedly will be maintained until the damage has been repaired and production resumed. The reluctance of many factories to resume operations is partly attributed to dissatisfaction on the part of producers with the Government ceiling prices for bricks and tiles.

As a result of the Senate's failure to pass the 1945 budget bill, it becomes necessary for the Government to extend the 1944 budget into the present year. It is reported that Government expenditures for 1945 totaling 140,712,471 pesos will be authorized, of which 128,685,246 will consist of regular and 12,027,225 pesos of extraordinary expenditures.

Dominican Republic

(From U. S. Embassy, Ciudad Trujillo)

The Dominican Government budget for 1945 presented to and approved by the Dominican Republic legislature provided for estimated receipts of approximately $21,000,000 and for expenditures of a slightly lesser amount. This budget estimate exceeds last year's by approximately $5,000,000, and as actual receipts during 1944 considerably exceeded the estimated receipts of that years's budget law, the 1945 budget would appear, if anything, to be a conservative estimate. Almost one-third of the total receipts will be collected from the sugar industry. Authorized expenditures include a variety of public works, including the construction of Government buildings, highways, and port improvements in Ciudad Trujillo which have already commenced.

Export figures for 1944 through October indicate an unprecedentedly large dollar value of exports in the amount of $55,000,000, of which $44,000,000 was accounted for by sugar and molasses and the remainder principally by cocoa, coffee, and yucca starch, in that order. Imports for the period January through July are valued at only $10,000,000. Beginning January 1945, export permits for alcohol and alcohol products will be issued only to distillers and liquor manufacturers having a contract with foreign importers.

The 1945 sugar taxes enacted by the Dominican Congress on December 29, 1944, provide for the continuation of last year's production tax of 35 cents per 100 pounds for all sugar sold at a price of $2.65 or less. Should the Dominican producers obtain a higher price than $2.65, they will pay 15 percent on the excess from $2.65 to $3, and 20 percent on the amount in excess of $3. If the price is $3 this additional percentage tax will yield the Dominican Government some $2,000,000 more than it received last year. Other regular taxes and Government charges on the shipment and export of sugar remain in effect and sugar taxes alone are estimated at over $6,000,000 for 1945.

The coffee crop continues to be abundant and of good quality. The 1945 coffee quota has been announced by the Inter-American Coffee Board and represents an increase over last year's coffee quota. This has generally reassured the coffee producers, as their very large crop will undoubtedly exceed the last year's quota. New York buyers are attempting the development of a higher quality coffee by more rigid control of processing done in the Dominican Republic prior to export.

The cocoa crop, which will be harvested from February to July 1945, is also anticipated as good and abundant, owing to sufficient rain in the producing region.

Several shipments of bananas have been recently made from Barahona, Puerto Plata, and Sanchez by small schooners to Florida ports. While comparatively small in volume, these banana shipments are supplying heavy demands in Florida, and reportedly bringing good prices. This export might be considerably increased if the producer were to receive a greater proportion of the 95 cents per stem paid at the port.

Guatemala

(From U. S. Embassy, Guatemala City)

Of significance to the economy of the country was a complete reorganization of the executive branch of the Government undertaken during December, out of which has emerged an organic law providing for certain new cabinet posts, specifically a Ministry of Economy and a Ministry of Public Health and Social Aid, while reorganization and realinement of functions of old-line departments resulted in the establishment of a Ministry of Communications and Public Works and a Ministry of Agriculture and Mining. Popular elections held for President and for a constitutional assembly to meet in January and an extraordinary session of a newly elected National Assembly occupied public attention throughout the month and had a favorable effect in general on retail sales, holiday buying being on a scale estimated to be at least 20 percent greater than during the similar period of the preceding year.

A number of tax measures promulgated during the month appear to have been designed to raise revenues by the principle of applying to all income-earning classes the tax burden and provided for an upward revision of the progressive tax on business profits, the inclusion of agents and other middlemen, as well as alcohol manufactures in this taxable group, a graduated tax on every category of capital income, and increased the internal revenue taxes on the manufacture of cigars, cigarettes, beer, and spirituous liquors.

To satisfy the increasing need for more fractionary monies, the Government authorized coinage beyond the former

(Continued on p. 36)

News by COUNTRIES

Argentina

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Convention with Chile on Traffic and Transit Facilities In Force.—An Argentine decree dated November 14, 1944, approved an exchange of notes of October 24, 1944, between the Argentine and Chilean Governments, according to which the convention on traffic and transit facilities signed by the two Governments at Buenos Aires on August 4, 1943, was to become effective on November 15, 1944, according to the Buenos Aires press of November 15, 1944.

[For notice of the signing and terms of this convention, see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of October 2, 1943.]

Belgian Congo

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Detailed Specifications of Goods Required on Applications for Import Licenses.—Detailed specifications of the quality, quantity, and price of each article must be shown on applications for import licenses submitted in Belgian Congo, to permit the control of quotas, according to the notice to the public No. 125 of September 8, 1944, published in the Bulletin Administratif of September 25.

The following information is required on each license application: (1) Detailed specification of the article of each category; (2) quality of the article (first choice, second choice, and the like); (3) unit weights and total weights; (4) unit price f. a. s. or f. o. b.; (5) analysis of this price (indicate the purchase price, expenses with commission or without commission); (6) rate of commission paid per purchasing agent.

Sawn Wood: Export Standards Revised.—Standards for the cutting, grading, and marking of sawn wood for exportation from Belgian Congo have been revised, effective September 15, 1944, by ordinance No. 261 A. E. of September 11, published in the Bulletin Administratif of September 25.

[Announcement of the establishment of these standards appeared in FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of March 1, 1941.]

Bermuda

Transport and Communication

Road Expenditures for 1945.—The Bermuda House of Assembly on November 22, 1944, passed the 1945 estimates of the Department of Public Works for the repair and maintenance of roads. The estimates as approved provide for an expenditure of £49,500, compared with £31,600 in 1944 and £26,000 in 1943.

Bolivia

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Quinine Sulfate: Export Monopoly Established.—Exportation from Bolivia of quinine sulfate has been concentrated in the hands of the Banco Agricola by a Supreme decree of October 19, 1944. This measure gives the Bolivian Government an effective trade monopoly of this commodity with greater control over its distribution.

The decree also provides that the producers of quinine sulfate (of which there are only two of consequence, one governmental and one private) must place all their production at the disposal of the Ministry of Economy which shall authorize its exportation.

Brazil

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Raw Wool and Wool Yarn: Import Duties Doubled and License Procedure Instituted.—The Brazilian import duties on raw wool and wool yarn were doubled by decree law No. 7116 of December 4, 1944, published in the Diario Oficial of December 6 and effective on that date. The increase is not applicable to orders placed before the date of the present decree law. The new minimum rates applicable to imports from the United States are 2.80 cruzeiros per gross kilogram of raw wool, 9.20 cruzeiros per legal kilogram of unbleached or bleached yarn, and 11.40 cruzeiros per legal kilogram of dyed, colored, or printed yarn. The general surtax of 10 percent of the import duty applies to the above rates.

For the importation of wool, carded, combed, or prepared in any other manner, including tops and noils, it is necessary to obtain a permit from the Export-Import Department of the Bank of Brazil, according to notice No. 88 of November 29, 1944, issued by the Bank. The importation of raw wool was previously made subject to the issuance of import licenses by an order of May 31, 1944.

[See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of September 16, 1944, for details.]

Gold Imports Subject to Previous License by the Bank of Brazil.—All imports of gold into Brazil have been made subject to prior license under the provisions of order No. 83 of October 20, 1944, issued by the Export-Import Department of the Bank of Brazil, in accordance with a directive of the Minister of Finance dated October 7. The requirement applies to gold imports in bars or sheets, in manufacture, or objects of art, from whatever source.

Previously, the Bank's control related only to gold produced in Brazil. The present order provides for the complete supervision of gold movements by the Bank of Brazil.

Transport and Communication

Projected Railway Connections.—Prominent among projected railway connections, as outlined in Brazil's General Plan of Railway and River Lines, approved in 1934, is that between Independencia (Minas Gerais), and Belem (Para). The Central do Brasil Railway announced recently its intention to establish a division-construction office at Pirapora to make studies in connection with the proposed work, which studies will cover colonization and development schemes for the area to be served, as well as location and construction plans for the railway itself.

Independencia, the present terminus of the meter-gage branch of the Central do Brasil Railway running northwesterly from Corintho on Brazil's so-called North-South line, is situated just across the Sao Francisco River from the important port of Pirapora, head of navigation on that river; and Belem is the important Atlantic port through which navigation enters the Amazon Basin. This projected connection running northwesterly from Independencia will

The Cover Picture

In Venezuela

"Derricks ride the waves" in this oil field located in Lake Maracaibo. Our cover picture on this issue of FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY depicts oil-well equipment being loaded on a lake barge for shipment to wells located at other points in Lake Maracaibo, Las Cabimas, Venezuela. Mammoth storage tanks are located in nearby areas.

This picture has been made available through the courtesy of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

enter Goiaz at Formosa and then follow northerly down the Parana and Tocantins valleys to Imperatriz, and on to Belem.

It has been suggested with reference to the project that a minimum of 30 miles be built annually. The extension projected is more than 1,240 miles.

British West Africa

Exchange and Finance

Annual Report of Currency Board Issued.—The anticipated heavy demand for currency in West Africa during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1944, failed to materialize, owing to certain factors affecting the cocoa crop in the Gold Coast and the groundnut crop in Nigeria and also to a reduction of military expenditure, according to the recently published 1944 report of the West African Currency Board.

The West African Currency Board during the fiscal year issued currency against payment in sterling in London to the amount of £2,471,000, a decline of £3,719,500 compared with the preceding year.

For the third successive year currency in circulation continued to increase. The total amount of West African currency in circulation on June 30, 1944, was £26,378,100 compared with £23,950,900 a year earlier and £11,705,400 on June 30, 1939.

The Board had total assets of nearly £29,488,000 at the close of the year under review.

Canada

Economic Conditions

Special Employment Survey Reveals Wartime Changes

The results of a special Canadian employment survey as of January 1944 have recently been made public by the Research and Statistics Branch of the Dominion's Department of Labor. When set up in juxtaposition with the June 1941 census figures, as is done in the accompanying table, they tend to reveal the definite shifts in employment which have taken place in Canada during the war years.

Total Wage Earners Employed in Canada

Industry	January 1944		
	Total	Male	Female
Manufacturing	1,215,357	{1,687,996 862,815	743,629 352,542
Construction	69,232	65,507	3,725
Mining	83,017	80,329	2,688
Transportation	214,018	199,008	15,010
Other public utilities	67,691	46,092	21,599
Trade:			
Retail	247,887	119,852	128,035
Wholesale	96,468	68,707	27,761
Finance	84,434	40,629	43,805
Logging	83,204	80,973	2,231
Fishing and trapping	1,409	1,249	160
Service	268,908	122,835	146,073
Total	2,431,625	1,687,996	743,629

Total Wage Earners Employed in Canada—Continued

Industry	June 1941		
	Total	Male	Female
Manufacturing	2,222,612	1,732,880	489,732
	914,735	742,726	172,027
Construction	166,600	165,238	1,362
Mining	85,847	85,278	569
Transportation	242,417	223,090	19,327
Other public utilities	(1)	(1)	(1)
Trade:			
Retail	253,037	170,813	82,224
Wholesale	87,234	72,046	15,188
Finance	80,139	52,612	27,527
Logging	77,459	77,018	441
Fishing and trapping	7,358	7,291	67
Service	307,768	136,768	171,000
Total	2,222,612	1,732,880	489,732

[1] Not available.—Probably distributed on a proportional basis among other industry groups in the table.

NOTE. Excluding employees in agriculture, domestic service, and regular governmental service. In June 1941, there were 136,092 wage earners employed in government service and 162,062 in domestic service. In June 1941, there were 172,353 wage earners employed in agriculture. This figure does not include farm owners and members of families working on farms. It has been estimated that as of June 1, 1944, 1,000,000 males were gainfully occupied in agriculture. In addition, there were 775,000 farm women.

During January 1944, 209,000 more persons were working for wages than in June 1941. This increase came entirely from the 254,000 additional Canadian women who entered industry—a greater number than the total increase in the number of wage earners. A reduction of about 45,000 in the number of male workers, most of whom entered the armed forces, accounts for this apparent discrepancy.

Most of the new wartime workers, as well as many other persons who changed from other work found jobs in Canada's expanding manufacturing industry which incurred a 300,622 increase in employment. The deep drop of employment in the construction industry is due to seasonal variations, and to the completion or near completion of such projects as airfields, war plants, and the Alaska Highway. Seasonal variations in logging also make January employment figures for this industry hardly comparable with June figures. Supply and labor restrictions on the operation of Canadian gold mines and the induction of miners into the armed forces explains the 1944 decrease in mining employment.

The total Canadian population of 14 years of age and over as of June 1, 1944, has been estimated at 8,865,000, of which 5,016,000 were estimated to be gainfully occupied or in the armed forces. With 784,000 of this number in the armed forces and approximately 2,432,000 wage earners accounted for by the January 1944 survey, there remain 1,800,000 gainfully occupied persons. These may be accounted for roughly as follows: Males gainfully occupied in agriculture, 1,000,-

Pertinent Comments on World Economy Today

[Being One of a Series of Excerpts From Books, Pamphlets, and Speeches]

Let Us Not Repeat the Mistakes Committed in Handling Reparations at the End of the Last War

The demand for reparations is based on the legal principle that a country responsible for war is liable to make restitution of seized property and to compensate for losses, damages, and injuries wantonly inflicted upon other countries. Unlike a war indemnity, reparations do not include the cost of military operations or arbitrary amounts of money exacted as a penalty by the victor from the defeated nation. Reparations are imposed not because of the mere fact of victory, but rather because of claims for actual losses. Justice requires that Germany and her satellites be compelled to return to the rightful owners all identifiable properties, stolen, looted, or confiscated in the invaded countries, to repay the amounts levied as indemnities on the conquered nations, and to restore everything they have deliberately destroyed in order to cripple the economies of the occupied territories. For property that has been consumed, lost its identity or original value, restitution must be made in equivalents. * * *

The economic reason for imposing reparations is twofold: (1) to compel the defeated aggressors to aid with goods, services, and manpower in the reconstruction of the countries devastated by them, and (2) to prevent the defeated country from rebuilding its economy and raising its standard of living ahead of the countries despoiled by it. * * *

Payment of reparations can be made in several forms: (1) in cash, that is, in the currency of the obligor or in the currencies of the recipient countries; (2) in kind, that is, commodities which the paying country possesses or is able to produce, such as raw materials, livestock, building materials, railway equipment, industrial machinery, and all kinds of manufactured goods; (3) in entire industrial plants, either by dismantling existing plants, transferring and reassembling them in the reparation creditor countries, or by erecting new plants in the countries ravaged by the aggressor; and (4) in labor, that is, utilization of the manpower of the defeated country in reconstructing the areas devastated by it, which would compensate the occupied countries for the loss of population. In order to equalize effectively the burden of reconstruction and prevent Germany and the other aggressors from enjoying economic advantages over the countries despoiled by them, all four types of reparations may have to be imposed.

[From "The Problem of Reparations," Published by the Institute of International Finance of New York University. Bulletin No. 135.]

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000; employers and family workers receiving no fixed payment, 430,000; government service and domestic service, 300,000.

Chile

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Customs Duties Increased 60 Percent Effective January 1, 1945.—The paper peso surcharge of 300 percent on Chilean gold peso duties, warehouse and other charges collected by the customs, has been increased from 300 to 540 percent, effective January 1, 1945, according to decree No. 4852, published in the Diario Oficial of January 2, 1945. Chilean customs duties are stated in gold pesos but are collected in paper pesos at a fixed rate for paper pesos to the gold peso. Under the previous surcharge of 300 percent, importers were paying duties at the rate of 4 paper pesos to 1 gold peso, or approximately 19.42 paper pesos to the dollar which rate has long been far out of line with the effective foreign value of the paper peso.

The increase in the surcharge to 540 percent is intended to bring the value of the paper peso for customs duty purposes into line with its foreign value of 31 pesos to the dollar. Importers will now have to pay duties at the rate of 6.40 paper pesos to 1 gold peso instead of the previous 4 paper pesos, an increase of 60 percent in customs duties. The Chilean Government has announced its intention, however, not to permit importers to raise their prices because of the higher import duties.

[For previous announcement of the Chilean Government's intention to increase the surcharge see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of December 2, 1944.]

Aluminum Sulfate: Import Duty Reduced for 1 Year.—Aluminum sulfate, item No. 749 of the Chilean tariff, has been declared an article of prime necessity and its import duty reduced from 0.35 to 0.25 gold peso per gross kilogram by decree No. 4378 of the Ministry of Finance, effective from the date of publication in the Diario Oficial of December 2, 1944, for a period of 1 year.

Most-Favored-Nation Customs Treatment Continued for Merchandise of Venezuela.—By decree No. 4458 of the Chilean Ministry of Finance of November 20, 1944, published in the Diario Oficial of December 5 and effective from November 5 for 1 year, merchandise of Venezuelan origin continues to be accorded most-favored-nation customs treatment in Chile, as stipulated in the commercial modus vivendi of November 4, 1944, between the two countries.

[For an announcement of the exchange of notes providing for the commercial modus vivendi see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of December 9, 1944.]

Colombia

Transport and Communication

Improvements in Railway Lines.—New railway lines, with an extension of approximately 1,180 miles are planned in Colombia, according to a study presented by the Chief of Coordination and Transportation of the Colombian National Railways. The new projects consist of the Ibague-Armenia gap; the extension of the Ferrocarril del Norte, Section II, to reach Santa Marta or Magdalena; the Ferrocarril del Pacifico to extend to Cartagena on the north and to Pasto and Diviso on the south; and the Ferrocarril de Girardot to be extended to Garzon.

The total length of Colombian railways, according to this report, is 2,057 miles, of which 1,363 miles are the property of the National Government, 449 of the departmental governments, and 245 miles of private entities.

New Rubber Coagulation Process Developed

An electrical process for the coagulation of rubber latex has been developed by two South Africans, states the British press. The process is claimed to eliminate the use of acids and to be both simple and inexpensive. Commercial concerns are said to be taking much interest in the matter, and a contract has been signed between the Société Forestiere et Commerciale du Congo Belge and the inventors.

Corsica

Wartime Commodity Controls

Alcohol, Alcoholic Products, and Salt: Consumption Taxes Fixed.—The internal consumption taxes in Corsica on imported and domestic alcohol and alcoholic products and salt were fixed by an ordinance of the French Committee of National Liberation, dated January 8, 1944, and published in the Journal Officiel of the French Republic on January 9 (just received).

The new rate on alcohol and products containing alcohol was fixed at 4,000 francs per hectoliter of pure alcohol. Wines, cider, beer, perfumery products, and medicines are not subject to this tax.

The new rate on salt was fixed at 100 francs per 100 kilograms.

Tobacco Products Manufactured Domestically: Special Tax on Sales Established.—A special tax of 30 percent of the retail sales price of cigarettes and tobacco products manufactured in Corsica was established by an ordinance of the French Committee on National Liberation, dated January 8, 1944, and published in the Journal Officiel of the French Republic on January 9 (just received).

Costa Rica

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Import Duty Reduced on Furs and Other Luxury Items.—The Costa Rican import duty on items formerly classified under tariff item 101 (paragraph five), which included: "Fur coats, furs for coats, small dressed skins, and other ornamental and luxury articles," has been reduced from 30 colones to 16 colones per gross kilogram and the items transferred to tariff item 100 (paragraph three) by Costa Rican Executive decree No. 33 of November 24, effective December 6, 1944.

Cuba

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Transportation Equipment: Customs Duty and Taxes on Imports Reestablished.—The exemption from import duty and taxes on transportation equipment (accorded by decrees No. 2396 of August 2, 1944, and 3127 of September 17, 1944) imported into Cuba from the United States has been abolished by decree No. 4440 of December 4, 1944, published in the Official Gazette of December 14, 1944.

Decree No. 2396 provided for duty-free importation by railroad companies of all necessary equipment from the United States for a 3-year period. Decree No. 3127 extended this privilege to all land, air and water transport companies.

[For announcement of decree No. 2396 see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of September 16, 1944; for announcement of decree No. 3127 see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of October 21, 1944.]

Crude Petroleum: Refining Tax Reestablished.—The Cuban tax of $0.0025 per gallon of imported or domestic crude petroleum destined for refining or distilling, established on February 2, 1942, and rescinded by Presidential decree No. 2393 of August 11, 1944, has been reestablished by decree No. 4512, published in the Official Gazette of December 16, 1944.

[For announcement of decree No. 2393, see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of September 23, 1944.]

Cattle: Exportation of 300 Head Monthly to Guadeloupe and Martinique Authorized.—The Cuban embargo on the exportation of cattle has been temporarily modified to permit the exportation of 300 head of beef cattle monthly to Guadeloupe and Martinique, through the U. S. Commercial Company, according to decree No. 4350, published in the Official Gazette of December 11, 1944. Shipments will be exempted from all taxes usually applicable.

Transport and Communication

Operations of Camaguey Airport.—General air-traffic statistics of the Camaguey (Cuba) International Airport, which serves planes of Pan American Airways, Compañia Cubana de Aviación, and others indicate considerable activity in 1943. The number of planes operating through the airport totaled 4,693; passengers in transit, 45,219; passengers arriving, 4,203; passengers departing, 5,797; and international air express, 152,210 pounds.

General traffic from January to October 1944 showed an increase over the above figures, except for international air express. The number of planes was 4,724; passengers in transit, 50,579; passengers arriving, 5,633; passengers departing, 7,016; international air express, 93,617 pounds; and international air-mail 13,696 pounds.

The field at Camaguey, some 6 miles northeast of the city, is owned by Pan American World Airways, Inc., and operated by its Cuban affiliate, Compañia Cubana de Aviación, S. A. It is equipped for operations night or day for all types of landplanes.

Prospects for Underground Railway System.—To meet the acute traffic problem in Habana, Cuba, an underground railway system has been proposed at an estimated cost of $200,000,000 to be distributed over a period of 10 years, states the foreign press.

Such a system would provide a rapid passenger service, assist in suburban development, and connect with existing suburban lines. One section is proposed to pass under the harbor to connect with the Guanabacoa railway.

Denmark

Exchange and Finance

Immense Sum Due Denmark from Germany for Army of Occupation Expenditures.—By October 1, 1944, the total balance due Denmark for unrepaid sums requisitioned from the National Bank of Denmark by the German Army of Occupation (the so-called "Sundry Debtors Account" or "Wehrmacht Account") had reached a total of 3,801,000,000 Danish crowns (about $773,500,000 United States currency at 1939 rates of exchange), according to one estimate appearing in the European press. (Other similar estimates are still higher.) This would represent an increase of no less than 1,409,000,000 crowns since the beginning of 1944. In addition, on September 30 Germany owed Denmark approximately 2,692,000,000 crowns on "Clearing Account," representing goods and services furnished by Denmark, in more or less commercial transactions, for which no payment has been made by Germany.

Press sources analyze the October 1 "Sundry Debtors Account" as follows:

	Danish crowns (Millions)
Cash payments to Germany (purposes for which used cannot be determined)	1,715
Paid:	
To Danish contractors	1,638
For purchases of food and erection of barracks	135
To Danish State Railways, for transportation of persons and goods	158
To municipalities, for gas, light, and rent of premises	58
To hotels and boarding houses	57
As compensation for real property confiscated	40
Total	3,801

Egypt

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Goods Arriving Without Import Permits To Be Confiscated.—A military proclamation was issued January 3, 1944, providing that all goods arriving from overseas for which the consignee has not previously obtained an Egyptian import license will be confiscated, according to information received from the American Legation in Cairo. Legislation permitting such confiscation has been in effect since 1942 but it has not often been enforced. It is understood that the new proclamation makes such action mandatory.

El Salvador

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Consulate General Will Not Legalize Shipping Documents Until Further Notice.—The Consul General of El Salvador at New York City has announced that the Consulate General will not legalize shipping documents covering shipments to that country until further notice. Documents covering shipments to El Salvador should be prepared as usual, and after the certificate of origin has been certified by the Commerce and Industry Association of New York City, the document should be forwarded to the consignee, and the consular fees will be collected at the port of arrival as formerly.

However, the Consulate General will continue to sell the required consular invoice forms at 40 cents per set of eight.

[See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of January 13, 1945, for an announcement of the temporary waiver of the visa on shipping documents. Owners of the circular PREPARING SHIPMENTS TO EL SALVADOR should note therein the fact that until further notice the Consulate General at New York City will no longer legalize shipping documents.]

Finland

Economic Conditions

The rate of increase of population of Helsinski, which was very rapid in the years immediately preceding the present war, declined greatly upon the outbreak of hostilities. Fluctuations in migration to the city were responsible for these trends, as the rate of growth of "native" population has been slow. A similar, but sometimes less pronounced and definite effect, is observable in the principal Scandinavian cities (according to figures published in the City of Helsinski Statistical Yearbook for 1942–43) and in the case of Oslo this resulted in a decided decline in total population.

The comparative situation in the largest cities of the Northern countries has been as follows, according to the above publication:

City and population		1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Helsinki:							
Population	number	293,159	304,876	315,627	319,939	322,291	324,700
Increase over preceding year	Percent		4	3.5	1.4	0.7	0.7
Stockholm:							
Population	number	556,954	570,771	583,621	590,543	599,962	613,754
Increase over preceding year	percent		2.5	2.3	1.2	1.6	2.3
Goteborg:							
Population	number	269,581	275,753	280,602	281,287	283,183	285,846
Increase over preceding year	percent		2.3	1.8	0.2	0.7	0.9
Copenhagen:							
Population	number	869,700	880,700	888,100	891,900	898,800	909,900
Increase over preceding year	percent		1.3	0.8	0.4	0.8	1.2
Oslo:							
Population	number	275,322	274,152	275,238	271,608	274,839	268,606
Increase over preceding year	percent			0.4	1.3	1.2	2.3

NOTE: The bases of the above estimates are sufficiently similar to warrant comparison of the totals. The 1943 figures are preliminary, except for Oslo.

Oils for Britain

Forty percent of the British fats ration is provided by the palm kernels, palm oil, and groundnuts of British West Africa, whose exportable oil palm products are now purchased entirely by the British Food Ministry, reports the British press. Prior to the war, this region formed the largest single unit for palm products in the world, but war conditions have fostered intensive and scientific cultivation elsewhere in the tropics, which will cause keen post-war competition. Adoption of modern methods of production in British West Africa are being encouraged.

The failure to produce new dwelling facilities in Helsinki at a rate commensurate with the increase of population is notable. The new housing was as follows:

Year	Dwellings	Rooms
	Number	*Number*
1938	4,112	8,909
1939	3,377	7,546
1940	2,796	6,266
1941	945	2,456
1942	1,320	3,243

As the above table indicates, the dwellings were largely two-room and one-room units. Of the latter, many without kitchen are included making the supply even more inadequate than would at first appear. Owing to the fact that

statistics for Scandinavian cities usually include (as concerns smaller units) only those with kitchen, the Finnish statistics are not fully comparable with those from other northern cities.

The wartime scarcity of building materials, labor shortage, and greatly increased cost of construction were main factors in the inadequate rate of housing construction in Finland. Fixed rents and increased costs of fuel and light also probably contributed.

The Finnish index of costs (on the basis of 1935=100) was 134 in 1939, 161 in 1940, 191 in 1941, and 228 in 1942. Rents of dwellings with central heating (but not including cost of heat) rose about 12 percent above 1938 levels by the end of 1941, the increase for those without such heat (considerably less than one-half of the total number) was less than 7 percent. The index of housing costs (rent and similar items) which was 105 for October 1939, was 118 for the corresponding month in 1943 (August 1938 to July 1939=100). This, however, is in contrast with the index of cost of heat and light, for which the comparable October figures are 121 for 1939 and 243 for 1943.

The general cost-of-living index for Helsinki (August 1938 to July 1939=100) increased from 107 in 1939 to 188 in 1943 (October figures). These figures are deceptive, however, since the food-cost index, which is heavily weighted, increased only from 108 in 1939 to 192 in 1943 (October). As this latter index takes no account of black-market prices, it fails to depict the real situation, since ration allowances were usually insufficient and were supplemented from illicit sources whenever possible.

The greater relative cost of living in Helsinki as compared with the remainder of Finland appears to have tended to diminish, but the fact that food and fuel were generally more readily obtainable elsewhere somewhat modifies this apparent trend. The consumption of meat by the city, which amounted to 17,663 metric tons in 1939 (and which was even greater in 1940) fell to 3,575 tons of rationed meat in 1942. Most shortages of essentials were felt, particularly in Helsinki. Consequently, black-market purchases, not statistically recorded, must have been a very important item in living costs there.

Water consumption in the city increased from 18,132,000 cubic meters (4,790,000,000 gallons) in 1939 to 20,928,000 cubic meters (5,529,000,000 gallons) in 1942. Consumption of illuminating gas (limited from time to time by shortage of coal) rose from 25,579,000 cubic meters (903,307,000 cubic feet) in 1939 to 35,047,000 cubic meters (1,237,664,000 cubic feet) in 1941, then fell to 33,699,000 cubic meters in 1942. Total consumption of electric current increased from 102,516,000 kilowatt-hours in 1939 to 120,372,000 kilowatt-hours in 1942.

The increased industrial activity in Helsinki during part of the period under review is amply evidenced. The number of enterprises in the city which are classed as industrial grew from 679 in 1938 to 754 in 1941, while their employed workers rose from 31,313 to 32,685 and the value of their output increased (partly from increased prices) from 3,386,313,100 Finnish marks to 4,743,033,600 Finnish marks. Metalworking industries were largely responsible for increased employment.

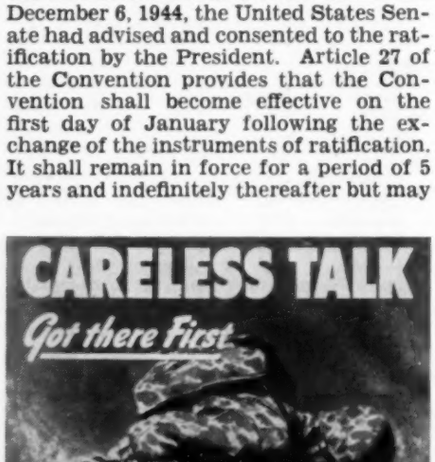
The electric energy consumed in motor operation (probably in industry for the greater part) rose from 53,526,000 kilowatt-hours in 1939 to 62,841,000 kilowatt-hours in 1942. Electric motors installed in industry increased constantly, and totaled as follows (in horsepower): 1938, 47,559; 1939, 48,083; 1940, 53,014; and 1941, 55,099. There was a particularly important increase in the steam turbine horsepower installed in the city. This rose as follows (in horsepower): 1938, 48,935; 1939, 66,035; 1940, no change; 1941, 99,435. Changes in other prime movers were negligible.

France

Exchange and Finance

Ratification of Convention and Protocol Between the United States and France for the Avoidance of Double Taxation.—On December 15, 1944, the President of the United States ratified the Convention and Protocol Between the United States and France (signed at Paris on July 25, 1939, and ratified by the President of the French Republic, in conformity with French law, on July 29, 1939) for the avoidance of double taxation and the establishment of rules or reciprocal administrative assistance in the case of income and other taxes. On December 6, 1944, the United States Senate had advised and consented to the ratification by the President. Article 27 of the Convention provides that the Convention shall become effective on the first day of January following the exchange of the instruments of ratification. It shall remain in force for a period of 5 years and indefinitely thereafter but may be terminated at or after the end of the 5-year period, provided 6 months' prior notice is given, the termination to become effective on the first day of January following the expiration of the 6-month period. The coming into effect of this Convention terminates the previous Convention signed April 27, 1932.

[The European Unit of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce has available for loan a limited number of copies of the text of the Convention and Protocol and of certain explanatory documents.]



Official OWI Photo

French North Africa

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Specified Imports Into Algeria From Tunisia Exempt From Duty.—Certain Tunisian products may be imported duty-free into Algeria within the limits of annual quotas, by a decree of January 25, 1944, of the French Committee of National Liberation, published in the Journal Officiel of the French Republic on February 3, 1944 (just received). This exemption applies also to similar products imported via Tunisia when they are of French or Algerian origin, or when they are of foreign origin nationalized in France or Algeria by the payment of import duties.

The products affected by this decree and the amounts of the quotas fixed are as follows (in metric tons, except spark plugs which are given in number of plugs):

Wool waste, 5; aluminum, 5; iron and steel, 20; zinc, 1; machines and apparatus, 350; vehicle bodies, 100; automotive vehicles and parts, 50; outer covers, inner tubes, pneumatic tires, 1; and 500 spark plugs.

Wines: Circulation Tax Increased in Algeria.—The circulation tax on wines in Algeria has been increased to 40 francs per hectoliter, effective January 1, 1944, by a decree of the French Committee of National Liberation of December 31, 1943, published in the Journal Officiel of the French Republic on January 9, 1944 (just received).

Guatemala

Wartime Commodity Controls

Decree Reserving to State Transactions in Strategic Minerals Abrogated.—Executive decree No. 2963 of October 5, 1942, which reserved to the Government, or to concessionaires specifically designated by the Government, all transactions relating to the exploration or development of strategic minerals and all sales and exportation of these minerals, has been abrogated by Guatemalan Executive decree No. 16 of November 22, promulgated November 24, 1944. Decree No. 16 further states that the Oficina de Coordinación Economica Financiera en Guatemala (Office of Economic and Financial Coordination of Guatemala) will be charged with the control of all that concerns, directly or indirectly, the exporta-

tion of strategic minerals for war industries.

[See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of November 14, 1942, for previous announcement of the provisions of decree No. 2963. It is not yet known in what manner the above office will regulate the minerals involved under the above-granted authority since regulations have not yet been issued.]

India

Transport and Communication

Freight Carloadings.—Freight carloadings of the Indian railways increased by 3.96 percent on the broad-gage and by 3.77 percent on the meter-gage in September 1944, compared with September 1943.

From April to September 30, 1944, freight carloadings were higher by 1.02 percent on the broad-gage and 7.36 percent on the meter-gage than during the corresponding period in 1943.

Iraq

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Import Licenses Required for Parcel-Post Packages.—Import licenses will be required for parcel-post packages sent from the United States to Iraq, according to a report from the United States Legation at Baghdad. The controller of Iraqi exchange estimates that during the last quarter of 1944 some 2,000 packages of merchandise were imported from the United States by persons in Iraq, and states that it has become necessary, in order to preserve import and exchange controls, to regulate this type of trade. The Iraqi exchange authorities have therefore decided that they will not furnish dollars to be used in payment of merchandise which leaves the United States for Iraq by parcel post after December 31, 1944, unless consignee is able to obtain an Iraqi import license.

American exporters should in future obtain evidence that import license has been issued before sending goods to Iraq by parcel post.

Mexico

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Cottonseed: Subsidy Payments Granted for Specified Imports.—A subsidy has been established for the importation into Mexico until February 28, 1945, of a maximum of 325 metric tons of certified cottonseed for planting in the Matamoros, Tamaulipas, region, according to a subsidy concession, published December 13, 1944.

The subsidy will amount to 20 percent of the cost of importation, which is not to exceed 621 pesos per metric ton.

Potato Seed: Subsidy Payments for Specified Volume of Imports Established.—A subsidy has been established for the importation until February 15, 1945, of a maximum of 120 metric tons of certified potato seed for planting in the State of Guanajuato, Mexico, according to a subsidy concession, published December 5, 1944.

The subsidy will amount to 20 percent of the cost of importation, which is not to exceed 268 pesos per metric ton.

Changes in Export Valuations.—The official valuations for the application of the 12-percent export tax have been substantially increased in Mexico on various products by a special Executive resolution dated December 14, 1944, published in the Diario Oficial of December 15, and effective from December 21, 1944. The resolution reduced the official valuations on horticultural seeds, bran, and flat glass.

The new valuations, with former valuations shown in parentheses, in pesos per gross kilogram (except bran, which is per gross ton), are as follows:

Fish, dried, salted, or smoked, not specified, 1 (0.25); skins, untanned, of alligator, crocodile, or lizard, up to 1.50 meters in length, 15.20 (11.30); same, over 1.50 meters in length, 15.20 (11.30); sharkskins, untanned, 1.30 (0.84); seeds, for horticulture, 4.55 (7.65); white beans, 0.45 (0.19); black beans, in bulk or in containers made wholly of national fibers, 0.45 (0.23); same, in containers, not specified, 0.45 (0.23); beans, not specified, in bulk or containers made wholly of national fibers, 0.45 (0.28); same, in containers made with at least 40 percent national fibers, 0.45 (0.28); same, in containers not specified, 0.45 (0.28); bran, 180 per gross ton (213.50); sarsaparilla root, 2.05 (1.85); saffron, 8.10 (6.25); creosote, 0.20 (0.17); same, mixed with other unspecified products 0.20 (0.17); wines and liquors whose alcoholic graduation at a temperature of 15° C. does not exceed 23 centesimals Gay-Lussac, in glass containers, 1.30 (0.85); same, in containers not specified, 1.60 (0.92); chemical products, not specified, when their industrial use is proved, 1.50 (0.78); calcium carbide, 0.50 (0.30); ichthyol, 2.95 (0.78); manufactured articles of chinaware, not specified, 1.05 (0.70); flat glass, even when mounted and including safety glass made of two sheets joined together, 0.09 (0.23).

Panama

Transport and Communication

Airport Under Construction.—An airport is under construction at Changuinola, in the Province of Bocas del Toro, Republic of Panama, and it is expected to be in operation in February, according to the Panamanian press. This is the second airport in the Province; the other, built in 1934, is located at the city of Bocas del Toro. The new airport will provide a direct travel route to Changuinola and supply greater conveniences for air passengers between Panama City, Puerto Armuelles, David, and Bocas del Toro.

A depot is being built to accommodate passengers, cargo, and customs and immigration officials.

Racing-Animal Export Restricted

The movement of racing animals (horses and dogs) to points outside the United States will require a special permit issued by the Director of the Bureau of Services, Interstate Commerce Commission, according to a recent order.

St. Helena

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Import Control Extended.—An amendment to the import-control regulations of St. Helena dated May 23, 1944, provides for the revision of the schedule of commodities, the importation of which into the Colony of St. Helena is prohibited except by license, according to the British press.

Import licenses are now required for (*a*) all articles and products from any country or place except those parts of the British Empire in which the currency is based on sterling, and (*b*) an extensive list of products from areas in the British Empire whose currency is based on sterling.

Sweden

Transport and Communication

Reciprocal Air-Transport Agreement Concluded with United States.—An agreement between the United States and Sweden, relating to air-transport services between the two countries, was concluded by an exchange of notes on December 16, 1944, according to State Department Release No. 649, of that date. This agreement supplements arrangements of September 8 and September 9, 1933, relating to the operation of civil aircraft of one signatory in the territory of the other. The agreement, in addition, incorporates the standard clauses adopted, for use in bilateral agreements relating to scheduled air services, at the recent International Civil Aviation Conference at Chicago. The specified rights necessary for establishing the air routes and services designated in an annex to the agreement are mutually granted.

To assure equality of treatment, both parties agree that national treatment will be granted as concerns charges for the use of public airports and facilities, and that national and most-favored-nation treatment shall apply with respect to customs duties, inspection fees, and other national charges on fuel, lubricating oils, and spare parts introduced into the territory of one signatory by the other (or its nationals) for use by aircraft of the latter. The foregoing, as well as equipment and stores on board, will, in the case of civil aircraft on the authorized lines of one party, be exempt from customs duties, inspection fees, and the like upon arrival in or departure from the territory of the other party to the agreement, or while therein. Safeguards concerning compliance with local laws and in questions of ownership or control are provided.

Each party is to apply its laws and regulations concerning admission or departure, as well as operation and navigation within its territory, to the aircraft of the other engaged in international air navigation, without distinction as to nationality. Each agrees to com-

Requirements As to Formula on Medicine Labels in Latin American Countries

"Requirements As to Qualitative and Quantitative Formula on Labels of Patent and Proprietary Medicines in Latin American Countries" has been compiled and is now ready for distribution. This circular lists, for each of the 20 Latin American republics, the requirement pertaining to showing the formula, quantitative or qualitative, or both, on the label of patent and proprietary medicines.

A copy of the above-named circular may be obtained upon request, free of charge, from the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce or from any of the Field Offices of the Department of Commerce.

ply with the regulations of the other concerning entry, clearance, immigration, passports, customs, and quarantine, as these may apply to passengers, crew, or cargo.

Either party to the agreement may terminate the rights for services granted therein by it, with 1 year's notice, while provision is made for consultation should either desire to modify the routes or conditions specified. Amendments mutually agreed upon are to be effectuated after confirmation by exchange of notes.

The present agreement became effective on January 1, 1945, and, except as may be modified by the present agreement, the general principles of the air navigation arrangement of 1933 (mentioned above) as applicable to scheduled air-transport services are to continue in force until otherwise agreed upon by the two contracting parties. Reservation is made for the possible effects of subsequent legislation by the Congress of the United States.

By the annex to the agreement, the United States and Sweden, respectively, reciprocally accord to air lines of the other signatory, authorized under the agreement, rights of transit, and nontraffic stop in their territories on specified routes, as well as the right to pick up and discharge international traffic in passengers, cargo, and mail at the designated terminal (or terminals) on the territory of the party granting the rights. For United States air lines the route specified is: New York or Chicago, via intermediate points, to Stockholm, in both directions, and for Swedish air lines, the equivalent route, beginning at Stockholm.

The agreement also contains clauses concerning ownerships and control of air lines permitted, certificates of airworthiness, etc., and commencement of operations.

[See COMMERCE REPORTS of October 7, 1933, for an announcement of the conclusion of the civil-aviation arrangements of September 8 and September 9, 1933, between the United States and Sweden.]

Further Restriction of Truck Traffic Planned.—Further restriction of motortruck traffic is planned in Sweden. It was reported that beginning January 1, 1945, each wholesale distributor of groceries and other foodstuffs might have to limit motortruck service to a fixed number of trips monthly to the various points of destination.

Wholesale distribution of groceries and other foodstuffs by motortruck is limited to an area within a radius of 4 Swedish miles (24 English miles) as reckoned from the point or community of departure. In practice, however, trips have often been made to points outside of the 4-mile radius. To save tires, motor fuel, and lubricating oils, plans are reported to be in the course of preparation in the various distribution centers throughout the country which will regulate the wholesale distribution of vital commodities both within and without the authorized 4-mile operation zone for motortrucks.

Uganda

Exchange and Finance

Buoyant Revenue Reported for 1943.—Uganda concluded the fiscal year 1943 with a surplus of £292,100, revenue totaling £2,428,700 and expenditure £2,136,600, according to the Protectorate's recently published Annual Report of the Accounts and Finances. This is largely attributable to rising customs revenues following upon the increased quota of cotton piece goods received during the year and to the enhanced landed values of all imported goods subject to ad valorem duties. Customs duties yielded £539,300, while excise duties supplied £292,300, mainly from tobacco. The native poll tax was another important source of revenue, yielding £566,000.

Actual revenue exceeded the estimate by £269,600. This result is indicative of the general economic prosperity of the Protectorate in wartime conditions, according to the Financial Secretary, and is particularly significant considering the fact that the cotton crop and consequently the yield from the cotton tax was the smallest in many years. During wartime, the general prosperity of the country and the finances of the Government are no longer so directly dependent on the success or failure of the cotton crop.

Annual expenditure of £2,136,600 exceeded estimates by more than £112,200, the excesses occurring chiefly in the items special medical expenditure, £263,900, and war expenditure, civil, £189,000. Other major items were education, £154,000, native affairs, £153,300, public works, £247,300, and public debt charges, £159,000.

Uganda's net public debt on December 31, 1943, amounted to £2,568,400, or approximately 13 East African shillings ($2.60) per capita.

The General Revenue Balance, which amounted to £814,300 in January 1943, totaled £811,700 at the close of the year after providing an interest-free loan of £301,200 to the British Government.

Union of South Africa

Transport and Communications

Scheduled Air Services.—South African Airways were scheduled to begin civil

(Continued on p. 33)

New Amazon Rubber Laboratory

Norman Bekkedahl, of the National Bureau of Standards, has just returned to Washington after spending 2 years in Brazil. In 1942, at the request of the Brazilian Government, the Bureau loaned the services of Dr. Bekkedahl to direct the establishment of a modern rubber laboratory at the Instituto Agronomico do Norte located in Belem in the State of Para (Technical News Bulletins 308, 316, and 321). He reports that the laboratory is now completely equipped and in operation, while its staff continues to be built up.

Dr. Bekkedahl was assisted in this work by Frederick L. Downs, one-time member of the Bureau staff and later an employee of the American Steel & Wire Co., Worcester, Mass., which granted him a leave of absence.

The Instituto Agronomico do Norte is one of several research institutes supported by the Brazilian Government and is somewhat similar to the Regional Research Laboratories of the United States Department of Agriculture. Dr. Felisberto Cardoso de Camargo, the director of the Instituto, has concentrated the research program largely on rubber, as it is the most important export of the Amazon region.

The location of the Instituto at Belem is particularly fortunate, since all the rubber from the Amazon Valley passes through this port at the mouth of the river. Whatever the relative positions of natural and synthetic rubber in the post-war years, the Amazon Valley must be considered as one of the more important potential sources of natural rubber.

Plans are being made for continued cooperation between the new laboratory and the National Bureau of Standards and other organizations in the United States.

News by COMMODITIES

Automotive Products

Automobile Production, Sweden

The new four-passenger automobile (PV–444) being manufactured by Aktiebolaget Volvo Co. of Göteborg, Sweden, is expected to be ready for delivery in the autumn of 1945. Approximately 8,000 cars are to be produced yearly. This car is streamlined, the service weight is 1,000 kilograms, and the number of cylinders is four. The chassis frame is not constructed as a separate unit but together with the body, which has made a considerable saving of weight and has lowered the center of gravity. The price is to be about $1,120.

Some 2,000 of the PV–60 six-passenger cars are to be built yearly. This is a modernized successor of the old PV–50 car. It is not streamlined. The service weight is 1,580 kilograms, the number of cylinders, six. The price is to be about $1,760.

Volvo automobiles, trucks, busses, and other motor vehicles are assembled from parts manufactured by several factories located in different sections of Sweden, some of which are independent enterprises. The parts are assembled at the company's principal plant in Göteborg.

In 1939, the Volvo company had planned a production program of 9,000 vehicles per annum, but because of the war, actual production was 7,305 cars. In 1940, the production program was enlarged and an annual production of 12,000 vehicles was the objective. The future goal has been placed at 20,000 vehicles consisting of 8,000 small and 2,000 large passenger cars, 8,000 trucks and busses, and 2,000 tractors.

Post-War Market, South Africa

The Union of South Africa is a potential market for 150,000 motorcars, according to the European press. Johannesburg will provide a market for 20,000 motorcars in the first year after the close of the war, states this same source.

Chemicals

Sodium-Bicarbonate Production, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Although sodium bicarbonate is produced in the Sao Paulo district of Brazil, 70 percent or more of domestic consumption has been supplied by imports. Imports through the port of Santos averaged 1,117,728 kilograms annually between 1938 and 1942. In 1943 imports were abnormally high (2,083,794 kilograms), principally because of heavy buying following a period of short supply. Although in the past small quantities of sodium bicarbonate were received from Germany, France, Italy, Japan, and Mexico, and more recently from Chile, Uruguay, and Argentina, the United Kingdom has been the principal supplier. Since the war, sodium bicarbonate from the United States has entered the Sao Paulo market in considerable quantities and during the first 9 months of 1944 shipments exceeded arrivals from the United Kingdom.

Cia. Quimica Rhodia Brasileira, Sao Paulo, has been manufacturing sodium bicarbonate from imported soda ash for almost 10 years and monthly output until recently is said to have amounted to between 40 and 50 tons. In 1942 and early 1943 production declined because of the shortage of soda ash. As a result of large imports in 1943 and 1944 and the substantial stocks now on hand, output by the company was reduced substantially in 1944. The firm's production is sold throughout Brazil and in the past between 40 and 50 percent was shipped outside of Sao Paulo.

Sociedade Nacional Fabril began production of sodium bicarbonate from soda ash in 1944 and output is estimated to be sufficient to cover the firm's requirements of 25 to 30 tons monthly for the production of laundry blue, plus some for sale in the domestic market.

Three manufacturers of laundry blue account for 80 percent of the sodium bicarbonate consumed in Sao Paulo. The other 20 percent is used in the manufacture of beverages and fire extinguishers, by the textile and tanning industries, and for medicinal and miscellaneous purposes. One manufacturer of laundry blue is estimated to use 60 percent of the total consumption of sodium bicarbonate in the area.

Caustic-Soda Imports, Brazil

Imports of caustic soda into Brazil through the port of Santos increased more than 150 percent in 1943 over the preceding year, comparable figures being given as 28,019 and 10,947 metric tons, respectively. Values are shown as $2,461,000 and $1,032,000.

The flow of this material to this area during the war, particularly from the United States, has been well maintained, especially in 1943.

Demand for Titanium Oxides and Nickel Sulfate, Sao Paulo, Brazil

A cumulated demand for titanium oxides exists in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in view of the fact that recent shipments received have been far below normal. Dealers are virtually without stocks, and supplies in the hands of consumers are small.

While natural titanium dioxide in the form of rutile and ilmenite sands is available in Brazil, the purification or reduction of these ores or their transformation into titanium pigments and compounds is not carried out. Consequently, the domestic industry depends entirely on imports for titanium oxides and pigments. Imports of these products into Sao Paulo through the port of Santos during 1942, 1943, and the first 10 months of 1944 were 120,875 kilograms of titanium dioxide and 2,036 kilograms of titanium pigments, 190,227 kilograms of titanium dioxide and 29,842 kilograms of titanium pigments, and 77,367 kilograms of titanium dioxide and 21,842 kilograms of titanium pigment, respectively.

Before the war, Germany was the chief source of supply of these materials, but since 1939 the United States has been the main supplier.

Titanium oxides are used in Sao Paulo chiefly by the well-established and growing paint industry and in the manufacture of opaque rayon threads. The domestic rubber industry also consumes this material in the confection of white rubber articles, but the rate of consumption for several years has been from 40 to 50 percent below normal because of the ban on production of white-walled tires. Titanium oxides are consumed in textile printing, cosmetics, vitrified enamels, and ceramics.

A considerable pent-up demand exists in the Sao Paulo district of Brazil for nickel sulfate. Because of wartime shortages, none has been imported since 1942, when 33,195 gross kilograms entered the port of Santos. Some trade sources consider this figure indicative of normal annual consumption.

Since the demand for nickel sulfate has remained as great and may even have increased because of expanding domestic production of surgical instruments and other metal articles formerly imported, prices for the small stocks still available have risen tremendously.

Nickel sulfate has been used in the Sao Paulo area for the electroplating of many metal articles, but its principal single use probably has been for coating tableware.

Need of Adequate Service for U. S. Equipment Sold Abroad

In the consideration of post-war markets for American equipment and machinery, the importance of providing expert service facilities in the foreign markets should be kept in mind.

A South American report calls attention to the advantage formerly enjoyed by German manufacturers who had established excellent service companies to insure the continued maximum performance of their products.

Courtesy Office of War Information

In addition to its importance in the growing manufacture of surgical instruments, it is employed in the plating of operational parts for balances, elevators, coffee-processing machines, and precision instruments.

During the war other forms of coating have been used, but when nickel sulfate is again available in adequate quantities, it is believed that this material will be important in an expanding metal industry.

The United Kingdom was the principal pre-war supplier.

Fertilizer Situation, Nova Scotia, Canada

The fertilizer-supply situation in Nova Scotia, Canada, is reported favorable.

A deposit of about 2,000,000 tons of agricultural lime has been found at Upper Musquodoboit. Other deposits discovered were less favorable for development.

New Ammonia Factory, China

The North China Nitric Fertilizer Co. is operating a new ammonia factory at Attaiyun, Shansi, China, according to a foreign chemical publication.

This concern also plans to enter the coal-tar industry field, using as raw materials the coal and gypsum deposits of the Province.

Chemical Company, India, Extends Operations

The Tata Chemical Co. has extended operations at its works at Mithapur, Baroda, India, despite wartime difficulties in obtaining equipment, says a foreign chemical journal.

Besides soda ash, plants have been completed for the production of electrolytic alkali, liquid chlorine, and bleaching powder. Hydrochloric acid, zinc chloride, bromides, magnesium sulfate, potassium chloride, and magnesium chloride also are being produced.

The Mithapur works extend over almost 60 acres and employ 1,500 workers, including a technical staff of 200.

Alcohol Production, Paraguay

Production of refined alcohol in Paraguay amounted to 635,708 liters in 1943, a substantial increase over the 1942 total of 427,422 and over the 7-year average for the period 1937–43 of 481,540 liters.

Denatured-alcohol production totaled 162,609 liters in 1943, compared with 224,644 in 1942. Average output for the period 1937–43 was 147,224 liters.

The Paraguayan Alcohol Corporation has fixed 1944 production quotas at 463,650 liters of refined alcohol and 138,250 liters of denatured alcohol.

Exports of alcohol have been substantial in previous years, but in 1943 they were negligible, amounting to only 340 liters, compared with 112,483 in 1942 and 201,941 in 1941.

Magnesium-Sulfate Production, Peru

Peru's production of magnesium sulfate dropped to 243 metric tons in 1943 from 419 tons in 1942. The entire amount was exported in both years.

Insecticide Stocks, Spain

Stocks of insecticides in Spain were reported late in November to be sufficient for immediate needs. Two shipments of nicotine had been received, and 5,000 metric tons of copper sulfate were on order for use this spring.

Soda Situation, Sweden

Inasmuch as soda is not produced domestically and only small amounts of its compounds are manufactured, Sweden has imported these important chemical materials primarily from Germany and, during the war, to some extent from Belgium.

Principal consumers of soda products are the glass, textile, pulp and paper, and miscellaneous chemical industries. The latter group includes manufacturers of pharmaceuticals, cleaning and washing compounds, and baking powder.

Soda imports in 1939 amounted to 39,565 metric tons, while in 1943 they totaled 27,825. Imports of sodium sulfate, the compound most important to Sweden, aggregated 45,120 tons in 1943 compared with 120,279 in 1939. Reductions amounted to 36.5 percent for soda and 58.5 percent for sodium sulfate.

An arrangement with Germany provided for the import of 25,000 tons of soda and 50,000 tons of sodium sulfate in 1944. Totals called for in 1943 arrangements were slightly larger but the full amounts were not delivered.

Some sodium sulfate is produced in Sweden; one company manufacturing this product is Reymersholms Gamla Industri A/B. Statistics on domestic production are not available after 1941, but in that year 23,753 tons were produced.

Swedish trade sources consider the soda situation increasingly serious. Steps have been taken by the glass industry through the collection of glass scrap and the use of substitutes to cope with the shortage. With the reduction in pulp output, requirements of the pulp and paper industry apparently are being met by domestic production, together with imports.

Use of Coal Products for Plastics to be Studied, U. K.

Powell Duffryn, Ltd., and De La Rue (Plastics), Ltd., will form a joint company, privately financed, to conduct research on the use of coal products in the plastics industry, says a British chemical magazine.

Research laboratories will be established in London, it is stated.

Supply Situation, Uruguay

The shortage of arsenic in Uruguay has been of importance inasmuch as this material is needed for many purposes by the livestock industry. Annual consumption normally amounts to 500 tons.

A shortage of zinc oxide and lead arsenate also has been reported. Supplies of sulfur and caustic soda were sufficient during the third quarter of 1944, but synthetic resins, naphthalene, and other materials were needed by the paint industry.

However, in view of present world conditions, the Uruguayan market can be said to have had an adequate supply of necessary chemicals.

Coal and Coke

Canadian Production

Production of 1,396,000 tons of coal in Canada in September 1944 brought the total for the first 9 months of the year to 11,393,000 tons, according to official Canadian statistics. The output of coke was 327,000 tons in September and 3,966,000 tons in the period January-September 1944.

Production, U. K.

Production of saleable coal in the United Kingdom during the second quarter of 1944 amounted to 46,422,000 tons, compared with 47,581,300 tons in the first quarter of the year, according to the British press. At the average rate of production maintained during the first half of 1944, the year's total output is

estimated at 185,688,000 tons, a considerable decrease from 1943 output of 194,493,000 tons and 1938 production of 226,993,200 tons.

Scottish coal miners produced 2,260,500 tons of coal during September 1944, or 97,000 tons less than in the corresponding month of 1943, according to the British press. The decrease is attributed partly to mechanical break-downs and partly to other causes.

The market for coal continued strong late in November, the industrial demand being particularly heavy. Authorities were making every effort to divert as much round coal as possible to the retail depots, but little surplus was available for stocking.

Construction

Construction Projects, Ecuador

Announcement has been made by the Bureau of Municipal Hygiene, Quito, Ecuador, of plans to construct a modern water-purification system capable of treating 37,850,000 liters of water daily. The project will include the following: A tank section for the preliminary settlement of sediment; a storage house for chemicals; a section for mixing chemicals with water and one for coagulation by aluminum hydroxide; an aeration section; a final sediment section and one for filter washing; two Spaulding-type precipitators; a rapid filtration division; and an administration building. The cost of the complete plant is estimated at $1,000,000. Work will begin as soon as financial arrangements have been completed.

Plans have been made by the National Irrigation Bureau to construct irrigation systems in the Provinces of Chimborazo, Manabi, Guayas, Pichincha, and Imbabura. The cost of the project in the Province of Chimborazo is estimated at $3,400,000. Both domestic and imported materials will be used in each system. According to the foreign press, the Bureau expects to maintain its working capital through the sale of water from the completed projects to the owners of the lands benefited.

The Bureau has contracted to construct a water-purification plant and distribution system for the city of Manta, Province of Manabi, and will receive 10 percent of the cost as its commission.

Cement Plant Projected, Panama

Plans are being made to build a cement plant at Quebrancha, Panama. The project will be financed by a newly organized company and will occupy 2,000 hectares of land, including the raw-material deposits. Anticipated production is estimated at 90,000 tons annually. Colombia is scheduled to receive the first 20,000 tons.

Irrigation Project, Peru

Peru's Ministry of Public Works has appropriated 6,098,178 soles for the rehabilitation of the Azucarero Canal in the Tacna Valley, says a foreign publication. The project, when completed, will irrigate 2,000 hectares of land permanently, and an additional 1,000 during the summer months. It is planned, eventually, to bring under cultivation the entire area of irrigable land in the Tacna Valley, which is stated to be 20,000 hectares.

Construction in Uruguay

Building permits issued at Montevideo, Uruguay, in the first 9 months of 1944 were valued at 18,604,897 pesos, compared with only 9,956,261 in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Although construction activity was expected to show a decline during the last quarter, it appears that 1944 will be the best year since 1941 for the building trades.

Expenditures for public works totaled 11,703,000 pesos in the third quarter of 1944, compared with 13,152,000 pesos in the corresponding period of 1943.

Electrical Machinery and Equipment

Creation of Electricity Authority Recommended, Northern Ireland

Creation of a Northern Ireland electricity authority with power to direct the operation of all generating stations in the Province as to quantity and rate of output was recommended in the report of a joint committee of representatives from the Ministry of Commerce and the Belfast Corporation, it is reported in the British press.

The authority, it was suggested, should assume duties corresponding to those of the Central Board in Britain, purchasing all electricity produced and selling it in bulk to undertakings at equitable tariffs. It would have power to acquire by compulsion or agreement any station not operated according to requirements.

Power Generation, Spain

In the opinion of Spanish financial circles Spain should be able to generate 27,000,000,000 kilowatts annually if the entire hydraulic power of the country could be used, according to the foreign press. Present power generation amounts to 4,500,000,000 kilowatts, it is stated. Additional hydroelectric plants reportedly will be put into operation in 1945.

Foodstuffs and Allied Products

Coffee and Cocoa

Cocoa Exports From Ecuador

Although deliveries of cocoa at Guayaquil, Ecuador, were higher in November 1944 than in the preceding month, they totaled only 18,363 quintals of 101.4 pounds each, as compared with 23,673 quintals in November 1943.

During the first 11 months of 1944 deliveries of cocoa at Guayaquil amounted to 270,141 quintals, a decrease of 27.4 percent as compared with 372,541 quintals in the corresponding period of 1943.

Exports of cocoa from Guayaquil in November 1944 amounted to 576,944 kilograms (1 kilogram=2.2046 pounds) valued at $119,875, according to an unofficial source, or a decrease of about 23 percent in volume as compared with November 1943 exports. The United States, as usual, took the major portion of cocoa exported, and a small quantity went to Argentina.

Ecuadoran Coffee Exports

Inasmuch as most of the 1943–44 Ecuadoran coffee crop earmarked for exportation had been delivered to the port of Guayaquil prior to November 1944, receipts during that month were only 6,500 quintals of 101.4 pounds each, as compared with 13,500 quintals in October 1944. November receipts, however, were 3,500 quintals more than in the corresponding month of 1943.

Exports of coffee from Guayaquil and Manta in November 1944 amounted to 28,040 bags of 60 kilograms each (1 kilogram=2.2046 pounds), according to an unofficial source.

Cocoa Production, Dominican Republic

Production of the winter crop of cocoa in the Dominican Republic is estimated at from 50,000 to 60,000 bags of 70 kilograms each.

Stocks of cocoa as of November 22, 1944, were reported to be 25 metric tons while the estimated available stocks within 60 days from that date were expected to be around 1,015 metric tons, or 14,500 bags.

Coffee Sales, El Salvador

As of the end of November 1944 total sales of the 1943–44 Salvadoran coffee

Surplus Planes for Foreign Lines

Five additional surplus transport planes have been allocated to foreign air lines, according to a recent announcement of the Surplus War Property Administrator. This brings the total number of surplus transports allocated to foreign air lines to 33, of which 27 are Douglas and 6 Lockheed types.

The allocation announced included 3 Douglas transports to Devlet Hava Yollari (Turkish State Airways) and 2 Lockheed transports to Canadian Pacific Airlines.

Up to January 2, 91 surplus transports, nonstandard to Army requirements, have been allocated to domestic and foreign air lines. Domestic air lines have received a total of 58 planes.

Machinery for the Nonalcoholic Beverage Industry

A machine shop, recently established in Lima, Peru, and a brass foundry in Callao are now producing machinery for the nonalcoholic beverage industry.

One machine is a combination bottle filler and crowner. The crowner is attached to the filling machine by a leather belt. A minimum of space is occupied by the machine which can be operated by one man. Once filling has started, no insect can enter the bottle. The capacity of the combination filler and crowner is 100 dozen per hour. Manufacture of this machine was begun in 1944, it sells for 14,000 soles, or $2,153.20 in U. S. currency.

Another machine, manufacture of which was begun in 1942, is a bottle washer consisting of a square washing tub in which are arranged various brushes. Capacity is 60 dozen per hour. Selling price is 2,700 soles, or $415.26.

A machine to charge water, called a carbonating machine, sells for 12,000 soles, or $1,845.60.

The iron castings for the machinery are purchased from an iron foundry in Callao. Tinning of the brass and copper parts is done by dipping in molten tin in a small iron pot heated by a blow torch.

The manufacturer claims for his machines a production rate 35 percent greater than that of German or United States machines.

crop registered since July 1943 amounted to 1,049,258 bags and of the 1944–45 crop registered since August 1944 to 25,514 bags.

Stocks of coffee in Salvadoran ports and at Puerto Barrios, Guatemala, totaled 64,848 bags as compared with 14,512 bags on the corresponding date in 1943.

Peruvian Coffee Situation

Production of coffee in Peru in 1944 is officially estimated at 90,000 quintals of 46 kilograms each, or 4,140 metric tons, excluding the Department of Loreto, compared with 1943 estimated output of 89,000 quintals, equivalent to 4,094 metric tons, including an estimated 10,000 quintals for Loreto. The carry-over as of August 1, 1944, was 30,000 quintals of 46 kilograms, compared with 20,000 on August 1, 1943.

Of the total 1944 coffee production, 46,000 quitals are said to correspond to first-quality coffee or export-type, and the remainder, or 44,000 quintals, to second-grade or consumption-type coffee. The distribution in 1943 was placed by the Production Control Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture as follows: 54,000 quitals of export-type coffee and 35,000 quitals of second-quality coffee.

Peruvian consumption of coffee in 1944 is estimated at 60,000 quintals, or 2,760 metric tons, compared with 55,000 quintals (2,530 tons) in 1943.

Shipments of hulled coffee from Peru advanced from 8,310 bags of 60 kilograms each in the first 10 months of 1943 to 27,690 bags in the corresponding months of 1944. During the first 10 months of 1943 the United States and Chile were the only important destinations, whereas shipments in the first 10 months of 1944 went exclusively to the United States.

Reliable trade sources in Peru are of the opinion that the country should be able to fill its quota under the Inter-American coffee agreement without any difficulty. Although the output and probably the supplies have been estimated on a conservative basis, they nevertheless show an apparent export surplus which exceeds the 28,750 bags of 60 kilograms each, which is the quota assigned to Peru.

Dairy Products

Butter and Cheese Exports, New Zealand

Exports of butter from New Zealand in August 1944 amounted to 805 long tons, compared with 1,895 tons in August 1943. Cheese exported totaled 695 tons, as against 1,171 tons in August 1943. These figures do not include quantities supplied to United States and New Zealand armed forces in the South Pacific.

Fruit

Citrus-Fruit Production, Trinidad, B. W. I.

The exact amount of citrus fruit (grapefruit and oranges) produced in Trinidad, British West Indies, cannot be ascertained, but labor shortage and lack of transportation has kept the 1944 crop of grapefruits lower than that of the preceding year.

Members of the Cooperative Citrus Growers' Association of Trinidad control 90 percent of the acreage devoted to citrus fruit in the colony. During the period July 1, 1943, through June 30, 1944, the association handled 92,564 field crates of 90 pounds net each. It is estimated that 30,000 field crates were marketed direct for cash by the growers themselves, giving an approximate figure of 122,500 field crates for the 1943–44 crop.

The crates sold direct by the growers went into domestic consumption as fresh fruit, and of the 92,564 crates handled by the association, 11,082 crates were sold locally as fresh fruit. The remaining 81,482 crates were converted into canned juice, of which 11,291 cartons (each of 24 20-ounce tins) were sold locally and for export to the neighboring British colonies. The remainder of the juice was sold to Canada.

Canada is and has been Trinidad's only important export market for canned grapefruit juice, and as there have been no shipments of fresh fruit to either Europe or Canada for the past 3 years, all export surpluses have taken the form of canned grapefruit juice.

It appears that output of grapefruit in 1944–45 will be about equal to that of 1943–44.

The orange crop is more difficult to estimate than the grapefruit crop as a larger quantity of the fruit is sold direct to the consumer. It is estimated, however, that the 1943–44 orange crop was 5,200 crates.

Pineapple Shipments From Cuba

The most significant development in the Cuban fresh-fruit market in November 1944 was the unusually large movement—4,400,000 pounds—of fresh pineapples. No other fruit shipments were reported.

This was the largest off-season monthly movement of pineapples in the past 8 years or more and indicates that the 1945 crop may be large. It is known that the acreage of pineapple has increased in Cuba in the past 2 years, but the extent of the increase is unknown. In addition, it is possible that the damage from the hurricane of October 18 is less permanent than was first estimated and that production may still be materially greater than in 1944. Undoubtedly the tendency will be for the export of the largest possible quantity in the fresh state, because of the United States low ceiling prices on canned pineapples.

Plantain Shipments From Cuba

For the past several years there has been a steady, though small, movement of Cuban plantains (cooking bananas) to the United States through the port of Habana. However, inasmuch as the hurricane leveled nearly all the plantains in the western part of Cuba, further exports from that area were prohibited to prevent the food supply from being depleted. No plaintains were exported from Habana in November, but export of this fruit commenced during the month from ports in eastern Cuba which ordinarily ship only Johnson bananas. It has thus been possible for Cuba to continue to fill the limited United States demand for plantains.

Grape Production, South Africa

Both table and wine grapes are produced in the Union of South Africa. During the crop year from August 1, 1943, to July 31, 1944, a total of 49,500 short tons of table grapes were produced, of which 24,500 tons were sold as fresh fruit and 25,000 tons sold to the wineries. In the 1942–43 season total production of table grapes amounted to 39,000 tons.

Approximately 350,000 tons of wine grapes were produced in the 1943–44 season.

There were no exports or imports of grapes in the 1943–44 season as a result of the war. The loss of the export market, which in 1937 amounted to 37,679 tons, valued at £590,884, has been a serious blow to the South African grape producers and is responsible for establishment by the Government of the Deciduous Fruit Board as a means of subsidizing producers in compensation for the loss of the export market. The Board

handles all table grapes as well as other deciduous fruits, including peaches, nectarines, pears, and plums.

Grain and Products

RICE PRODUCTION, TRINIDAD, B. W. I.

In 1944, rice was cultivated on a total area of not less than 15,000 acres in Trinidad, British West Indies, and the yield was approximately 12,000 tons. Imports amounted to about 15,000 tons against pre-war imports of from 17,000 to 20,000 tons, when domestic production was not in excess of 6,000 tons. Rice is by far the most important food crop on the island, but it is grown by the natives for their own use and not for sale through regular market channels.

PRODUCTION, SOUTH AFRICA

The season for so-called winter crops, wheat, oats, rye, and barley in the Union of South Africa is from the planting time in March to May to harvesting in November.

The following table shows the first estimate of production in the Union of South Africa during the 1944 season, as compared with the final estimate for the 1943 season:

Item	Final estimates for 1943	First estimates for 1944
Wheat ..... 200-pound bags	5,390,000	4,580,000
Rye ..... do	259,000	267,000
Barley ..... 150-pound bags	640,000	1,013,000
Oats ..... do	1,625,000	2,222,000

The decrease in the production of wheat in 1944 as compared with 1943 is attributed partly to damage by pests, which were unusually prevalent in the Orange Free State, and partly to unsatisfactory weather conditions in that area during the growing season.

The increases in production of rye, barley, and oats resulted from improved weather conditions in the Karroo district and the Province of the Cape of Good Hope, where a large part of these crops are grown.

As no agricultural census has been made since the beginning of the war, the Department of Agriculture has no information regarding the areas planted to oats, barley, and rye. The area planted to wheat, however, is known to have been 1,280,346 morgen in 1943 and 1,107,743 morgen in 1944. (The morgen=approximately 2.11 acres).

Final estimate of the production of corn during the season from October 1943 to April 1944 is 18,372,000 bags of 200 pounds each, as compared with 22,000,000 bags in the 1942–43 season, a normal crop. It is understood that the carry-over from the 1942–43 crop will be sufficient to overcome the shortage resulting from the poor crop in 1943–44.

Poultry and Products

CANADIAN POULTRY INDUSTRY

A sharp increase was noted in the number of hens and chickens on farms in Canada on June 1, 1944, the total reaching 86,792,000, or nearly 16 percent over the preceding year. The increase in the number of hens and chickens was particularly substantial in Saskatchewan, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and Alberta. The continued demand for large quantities of eggs for export to the United Kingdom in dried form has encouraged the rapid expansion of the poultry industry.

Sugars and Products

SUGAR PRODUCTION, INDIA

Up to September 30, 1944, the total quantity of white sugar produced in the sugar factories of India during the 1943–44 season totaled 1,221,192 long tons. In addition, India produces about 3,000,000 tons of gur (a crude brown sugar) each year.

Figures for production of factory sugar during October 1944, the last month of the 1943–44 season, are not available, but total production for the 1943–44 season is not expected to exceed 1,221,500 long tons.

During the 1943–44 season, 151 factories operated, out of a total of 164. A large majority of the factories commenced crushing between November 15 and December 19, 1943, and concluded operations between March 25 and May 26, 1944. The maximum number of days worked by any factory was 255 as against 278 in the 1942–43 season. The minimum number of days worked by any factory was 5 as against 7 during the preceding season. A total of 12,137,800 long tons of sugarcane were crushed by the factories during the season as compared with 10,418,500 long tons in 1942–43.

The first forecast of the sugarcane crop for the 1944–45 season in the United Provinces estimates the planted area at 2,146,000 acres, a decrease of 4.2 percent from the preceding season's area of 2,240,000 acres for this section of India. The fall in acreage is atributed to the current high cost of production and difficulties for cultivators in the disposition of cane and gur.

The area planted in Bihar for the 1944–45 season is estimated at 370,000 acres as compared with 409,000 acres 1 year ago.

The Government of the United Provinces recently appealed to sugarcane growers in that area to curtail cane acreage to grow food grains, for which there is urgent need. Another reason for this appeal was tha during the last season the United Provinces produced much more gur than could be handled by depleted transport facilities.

The Sugar Controller's Advisory Committee, which met in New Delhi at the end of September 1944, discussed among a number of subjects the manufacture of confectionery and sugar candy. At present sugar cannot be used for the manufacture of confectionery products without the permission of the Sugar Controller and only 10,000 tons are now allotted to 23 candy-producing plants, a number of which are located in the United Provinces. It was urged during the meeting that the candy industry be given more sugar in the current season and also that new plants be encouraged to start candy manufacture.

Leather and Related Products

EXPORTS FROM BRITISH GUIANA

British Guiana exported 1,356 hides and 2,171 pounds of leather during the first 10 months of 1944. In the corresponding period of the preceding year,

3,304 hides but only 446 pounds of leather were exported.

Canadian Footwear Production

During the first 10 months of 1944, Canadian footwear production totaled 29,527,000 pairs, compared with 28,535,000 pairs in the corresponding period of 1943, according to official figures. Of the total output, 7,695,000 pairs were for men; 13,354,000 for women; 1,997,000 for youths and boys; 4,368,000 for misses and children; and 2,113,000 for infants.

Hide and Skin Exports, Ethiopia

Exports of hides and skins from Ethiopia in 1943 were 65 percent less than in 1935, an average pre-war year, when total exports approximated 8,000 tons, reports a Eureopean publication. This decrease in both quantity and value is attributed to the depletion of herds by two wars and reduced slaughter for meat because of high prices.

Haitian Goatskin Exports

Haitian goatskin exports decreased by 39 percent during the first 9 months of the fiscal year ended September 1944 from those of the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year, according to a foreign trade journal.

Footwear Production, Honduras

Leather footwear imports into Honduras during the fiscal year ended June 1944 weighed 61,639 kilograms and were valued at $139,757, compared with imports in the preceding year of 62,018 kilograms valued at $111,972.

Production of footwear in 1944 has been estimated at 150,000 pairs, an increase of 20,000 pairs over the 1943 volume. Production of women's shoes amounted to 60,000 pairs in each of the 2 years. In 1944, men's, youths', and boys' types totaled 90,000 pairs, compared with 70,000 pairs in the preceding year.

Livestock

Record Census, Canada

The Canadian livestock census of June 1, 1944, established a new high record in the number of cattle on farms, according to the Dominion press. There were 10,346,000 head of cattle on June 1, 1944, an increase of 7 percent over the number on farms on the corresponding date of 1943.

Sheep totaling 3,726,000 on June 1, 1944, showed an increase of nearly 8 percent over the preceding year.

The number of horses, 2,735,000, decreased by 40,000 as compared with June 1, 1943.

Enumeration (England and Wales), U. K.

The number of cattle in England and Wales increased from 6,770,000 in 1939 to 7,209,000 in 1944. On the other hand, sheep and lambs declined from 17,986,000 to 12,632,000; pigs from 3,515,000 to 1,467,000; poultry from 56,426,000 to 31,907,000; and horses from 1,079,000 to 918,000. These figures are related to the decrease in imported feedstuffs from between 8,000,000 and 9,000,000 tons in pre-war years to small amounts.

Quebracho Price Ceiling Lifted

An increase of 75 cents a hundred pounds in importers' prices for solid quebracho extract was recently announced by the Office of Price Administration.

Quebracho tanning extract is imported from South America and is one of the most important vegetable tanning materials. An adequate supply of the commodity must be continued in this country to maintain production of leather products needed for military requirements and essential civilian use, OPA said.

This increase represents the first advance in price of solid quebracho extract since February 1941, OPA said, and was made necessary because of increased costs for labor, bagging, and transportation in South America.

The new delivered-to-tannery price in most cases will still be less, however, than the prices tanners had to pay 2 years ago for the material. The excessively high war-risk-insurance rates then in force have been since reduced to a nominal amount.

Lumber and Products

Exports From British Guiana

A notable increase has occurred in exports of shingles from British Guiana. During the period January–October 1944 exports amounted to 693,150, compared with 272,000 during the corresponding months in 1943.

An upward trend also has been noted in exports of timber and railway ties. The availability of increased transportation facilities is probably the principal factor in accounting for the larger shipments.

Mahogany Industry, British Honduras

Commercial mahogany stands in British Honduras are now located in less accessible areas, at a distance from good rafting streams and for the most part in the interior. The wood is excellent in grade and size but expensive to log.

Existing stands of virgin mahogany are being rapidly cut, and additional transportation facilities will be needed to maintain the colony's present position in the Central American mahogany industry.

It probably will be some years before material benefit is realized from the government's reforestation program.

Canadian Lumber Cut

Latest estimates place Canada's 1944 lumber cut at 4,700,000,000 board feet, an increase of 100,000,000 feet over 1943 and almost equal to the record of 4,941,000,000 feet established in 1941, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Although demands for timber for military purposes are still heavy, the peak of war construction has been passed and slightly more lumber is expected to be available for civilian use. A backlog of more than $300,000,000 in building permits is held by the construction control.

British Columbia's sawlog scale in October totaled 280,677,388 board feet, an increase of 29,928,505 feet over the preceding month, and of 13,021,430 over October 1943. The total scale of 2,406,278,536 feet for the first 10 months of 1944 represented an increase of 153,817,457 feet compared with the corresponding period in 1943.

Poles and piling in British Columbia increased in October over the preceding month, but declined during the first 10 months of 1944 from the comparable 1943 figure. Cordwood dropped considerably during the month of October, but showed a substantial increase for the 10-month period.

The October cut of railroad ties remained at almost an even level compared with October 1943, but the total for the period January–October increased 50 percent over the corresponding months in 1943.

Pitwood Supplies, U. K.

Pitwood supplies in the United Kingdom are considered good under present conditions, inasmuch as coal production is not being expanded and no development work is being undertaken, says the British press.

Although deliveries from domestic sources are slackening, they are sufficient to cover most of the consumption, and fair stocks are in reserve. Pitwood imports are not likely to be large, but some are being received from Newfoundland.

Uruguayan Imports

Uruguay's imports of lumber amounted to 59,622 short tons in 1943, a slight decrease from the 1942 figure of 60,698 tons, according to the foreign press.

Lumber imports are expected to be maintained at about the same level, it is stated.

Machinery, Other Than Electrical

Exports From United Kingdom

Exports of machinery from the United Kingdom declined by more than two-thirds between 1938 and 1943, reported the British Board of Trade. This reduction would have been much larger, it is stated, had it not been for the supplies of machine tools, electrical machinery, and similar products sent to Soviet Russia. The accompanying table sets forth the quantity and value of machinery exports, by type, during the years 1942 and 1943, together with comparable figures for 1938, the last full peacetime year. Commercial comparability of the figures for 1938 and those of 1942 and 1943 is restricted by the

failure to separate goods shipped as Reverse Lend-Lease or as supplies to other governments. (Information regarding the country of destination, in most cases, may be obtained upon request from the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.)

Exports of Machinery from United Kingdom

Type	1938		1942		1943	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Tons		*Tons*		*Tons*	
Agricultural	18,597	£1,287,326	3,712	£361,187	4,580	£428,948
Air and gas compressors and exhausters	3,040	572,746	986	204,252	579	165,464
Boilers and boiler-house plant	55,968	3,862,971	15,381	1,485,320	12,319	1,222,840
Boot and shoe-making	456	166,532	132	59,297	65	49,509
Centrifugal drying	2,305	209,426	129	31,644	97	33,720
Condensers	1,998	295,667	670	134,490	229	50,405
Conveyors, telphers, transporters	3,080	276,350	1,576	190,134	912	123,850
Cranes, hoists, and other lifting machinery n. e. s.	19,167	1,593,537	4,180	492,625	4,437	532,669
Dairy machinery	825	234,962	201	79,080	178	85,155
Electrical machinery	44,645	7,894,312	23,733	5,007,807	28,445	6,575,229
Excavating and similar digging machinery	5,776	680,717	731	113,637	1,090	176,341
Food preparation and sterilizing machinery: Bakers' and confectioners'	1,581	217,467	122	26,383	61	11,938
Furnace-plant	5,299	357,066	1,542	267,734	661	171,631
Gas and chemical n. e. s	4,166	328,673	1,510	193,170	1,401	202,551
Grain-milling machinery	1,975	235,929	552	86,291	1,273	150,424
Hydraulic, n. e. s	2,503	252,972	414	62,711	232	49,508
Lawn mowers	760	138,041	53	13,844	46	12,660
Machine tools (metal-working)	24,122	4,473,405	20,265	4,621,518	12,719	2,782,842
Mining machinery	25,591	2,303,562	5,355	817,375	4,426	650,210
Office machinery	986	637,642	399	316,856	303	275,744
Packing and labeling machinery	319	187,588	29	27,796	14	7,544
Paper-making and board-making (other than paper machine wires)	7,223	729,092	798	377,649	749	432,675
Pneumatic tools	570	345,293	222	131,897	158	119,803
Portable mechanical appliances, electrically operated, n. e. s.	873	444,671	91	65,523	[1] 74	66,771
Prime movers, separately consigned n. e. s. except tractors, locomotives, motor vehicles or aircraft	28,510	4,139,930	6,219	1,396,108	6,379	1,591,202
Printing and bookbinding	4,139	1,038,520	453	182,377	215	144,028
Pumps	8,229	1,561,261	5,463	1,101,451	3,261	716,247
Refrigerating machinery	2,830	396,373	699	126,306	516	108,990
Road rollers	2,799	252,711	276	31,836	137	24,065
Sewing machines and parts	11,709	1,261,986	1,695	307,176	704	153,460
Sugar-making and refining (except centrifugal)	8,363	566,225	2,633	231,437	2,292	212,684
Textile machinery	70,776	8,407,254	19,210	5,036,401	13,010	4,695,379
Tobacco and cigarette-making	983	522,060	91	94,423	36	52,427
Weighing machinery	2,138	259,125	1,463	187,983	877	111,309
Woodworking machinery n. e. s.	1,441	231,060	565	111,479	466	89,152
Machinery accessories, separately consigned	5,205	1,518,817	2,061	1,074,972	2,062	1,164,243
All other articles	79,716	9,986,296	33,735	4,891,669	30,594	4,530,955
Total	459,263	57,867,565	157,346	29,941,838	135,597	27,972,572

[1] Tonnage on vacuum cleaners, valued at £2,433, not given.

Medicinals and Crude Drugs

Imports, British Guiana

Imports of medicines and drugs into British Guiana during the first 8 months of 1944 were valued at $279,210 (British Guiana currency), compared with $319,741 in the corresponding period of 1943, according to the press.

Cinchona-Bark Exports, Colombia

Exports of cinchona bark from Colombia during the first 6 months of 1944 were valued at 1,224,000 pesos, an increase of 1,026,000 pesos over the corresponding period in 1943.

Mint Growing in Brazil

Mint growers in Sao Paulo and other sections of Brazil are reported to be planning to increase the area planted. Encouraged principally by high prices received in 1944 for mint oil, growers who had between 2 and 4 acres in mint in that year are now planting from 30 to 50 acres. Producers also have learned from last year's experience how to dry the stalks and extract the oil.

There probably will be only two cuttings of mint this year, one in January and one in April. Present stocks of mint crystals are estimated at between 20 and 40 metric tons.

Nicaraguan Exports

Nicaraguan exports of ipecac roots during September 1944 amounted to 3,981 kilograms, valued at $22,868. Exports of balsam of Peru in the same month totaled 3,833 kilograms, valued at $13,355.

Uganda's Cinchona Bark

A sample of cinchona bark from Uganda is stated by the British press to have had a quinine content of 15.7 percent, believed to be a record analysis.

Motion Pictures and Equipment

Popular Motion Pictures in Portugal

United States motion pictures occupy a dominant place on the Portuguese market, and it is believed that competition from European sources will not be strong for some time to come. Domestic production is small, and no expansion of the industry is contemplated at present.

Audience preferences in general are similar to those of Brazil. Of particular interest are scenes portraying life in Brazil or bearing on the relationship between Brazil and the United States. Major productions connected with episodes or periods of American history in their larger or symbolic aspects arouse interest and may serve important purposes. Comedies, even the homespun and slapstick, are keenly appreciated.

Pictures dealing with the intricacies of United States domestic policies, gangster films, and treatments of limited topical interest are not recommended for the Portuguese market.

Nonferrous Metals

Production of Tungsten, Brazil

The only known occurrences of tungsten in Brazil prior to early 1942 were the wolframite-cassiterite deposits near Encruzilhada in the State of Rio Grande do Sul. Tungsten production from this region amounted to about 27 tons of concentrates during the 4 years 1937–40.

Agreements between owners of the largest scheelite properties and the Departamento Nacional da Produção Mineral, signed at the end of 1943, provide for systematic sampling and surveying of deposits, with labor to be supplied by the mine owners, and other expenses to be borne by the Departamento Nacional da Produção Mineral. Although some of this work can be done by trenching, a considerable amount of core drilling will be required.

The scheelite belt of the States of Rio Grande do Norte and Paraiba covers about 15,000 square kilometers of the Borborema plateau.

The boom in scheelite mining reached its peak in August 1943. A year later output was considerably reduced at nearly all mines. Among the closed

mines was the Barro Vermelho deposit where 3,000 men were employed at one time.

All mining and concentration is done by primitive hand methods.

Production of Refined Lead, Brazil

Refined lead is to be produced in a Government-owned plant established at Apiai (Sao Paulo), Brazil. The capacity of the plant, according to a foreign press report, is 6,000 tons.

Output of Nonferrous Metals in Canada

Production of nonferrous metals in Canada during the first 9 months of 1944 included 210,512 tons of copper, 104,368 tons of nickel, 106,993 tons of lead, 196,966 tons of zinc, 22,316,000 ounces of gold, and 10,072,000 ounces of silver, according to official statistics.

Exports of Platinum, Colombia

Colombian exports of platinum during the first 6 months of 1944 had a total value of 843,000 pesos, compared with 879,000 pesos during the second half of 1943.

Exports of Gold and Silver Ores, El Salvador

Including November shipments of 2,240 troy ounces of gold-base bullion and ore, El Salvador exported to the United States 22,446 ounces of gold ore during the first 11 months of 1944, compared with 27,339 ounces in the corresponding period of 1943. A total of 40,625 ounces of silver ore were shipped in November, the 11-month total amounting to 262,040 ounces, compared with 191,013 ounces in the corresponding period of the preceding year.

Gold Production, Union of South Africa

An output of 1,024,574 fine ounces of gold from the Union of South Africa in October 1944 did not include a return from the Witwatersrand Deep mine which now has ceased operation.

The trend in gold production during the first 10 months of the year was about 5 percent below the 1943 production figures.

Nonmetallic Minerals

Canadian Production

Canadian output of nonmetallic minerals during the first 9 months of 1944 included 454,000 tons of gypsum, 17,796 tons of feldspar, 245,603 tons of commercial salt, and 5,565,000 barrels of cement.

Exploitation of Barium-Oxide Deposits, Colombia

A new source of barium oxide in Los Santos, Colombia, has aroused considerable interest within the municipality. An initial shipment of 90 tons, crushed in Bucaramanga, has been made via Puerto Wilches on the Magdalena River. Over 700 tons have been mined and are being held, pending the availability of transportation facilities.

With a view to the further exploitation of the deposits, several prospective producers and exporters are reported to be investigating the world market.

Oils, Fats, and Oilseeds

Brazilian Output

Total production of castor seed in Brazil declined in 1943 to 94,000 tons from 143,000 tons in 1942. The 1943 output of cottonseed increased to 1,084,000 tons from a total of 880,000 tons in 1942. In 1942 the production of cottonseed oil totaled 100,000 tons, and of peanut oil, 350,000 kilograms. Production figures for these crops are not available for 1943.

Imports of Oil Meal, British Guiana

Imports of oil meal into British Guiana from January 1 to September 30, 1944, totaled 456,000 pounds, valued at $2,725, a decrease from 691,518 pounds, valued at $24,893, during the corresponding period of 1943, stated the press.

Canadian Imports of Vegetable Oils

Imports of vegetable oils into Canada in October 1944 were valued at $1,264,000 (Canadian currency), an increase of $744,000 over the value of imports in the corresponding month of 1943. Total imports of vegetable oils from January through October 1944 were valued at $9,692,000.

Stocks and Imports, Ecuador

Lard stocks in Ecuador on October 31, 1944, were estimated at approximately 7,000 barrels of 4 quintals each, or approximately 28,000 quintals, sufficient to satisfy domestic requirements for about 4 months. Imports of lard from January 1 to September 30, 1944, amounted to 3,331,154 kilograms, compared with 1,314,237 kilograms during the corresponding period of 1943.

Imports of edible oil into Ecuador during the first 9 months of 1944 totaled 47,093 kilograms, compared with 141,009 kilograms in the corresponding period of 1943.

Production Estimates, Uruguay

The third estimate of the area sown to sunflower seed in Uruguay for 1944 is 53,478 hectares, compared with 28,199 in 1943, reports the foreign press. The second estimate of production is 40,368,000 kilograms, compared with 5,745,632 in the preceding season. Compared with 1942, present estimates show a 7.7 percent decrease in area sown and a 32.5 increase in output.

The third estimate of acreage sown to groundnuts in 1944 is 4,986 hectares, or 2,092 less than in the preceding year. The yield is expected to be 4,423,000 kilograms, or 2,639,134 kilograms more than in 1943, according to the second estimate of production.

Increase in Olive-Oil Output, Turkey

In the Aegean area of Turkey, the principal olive-growing region, the 1944–45 output of olive oil is expected to reach about 35,000 tons, an above-average yield. Because of the increase in domestic consumption, especially of soap oils, and the relatively short stocks on hand, exportation has been temporarily prohibited.

Paints and Pigments

Imports of Paints and Varnishes, Canada

Canada's imports of paints and varnishes during the period January-October 1944 were valued at $6,273,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Monthly import values during this period were highest in October, totaling $756,000.

Titanium-Dioxide Pigments to be Manufactured, Canada

Canadian Pigments, Ltd., plans to manufacture titanium-dioxide pigments in Canada after the war, says a foreign chemical magazine.

When the company was organized in 1937, a factory site was acquired at Cap de la Madeleine, Quebec, but because of the war the firm has confined its activities to the distribution of titanium imported from the United States. The raw material for the proposed plant is expected to be imported from the United States, since deposits of titanium minerals discovered in Canada are not considered economic.

Output of the factory will be at least 14,000,000 pounds annually, sufficient to meet Canadian demand.

Paper and Related Products

Production of Cigarette Paper in Winnepeg, Canada

A Canadian paper firm has established a mill at Winnepeg for the conversion of flax straw into pulp suitable for cigarette paper. After the straw has been decorticated, picked, and screened, it is baled and shipped to the company's paper plant in Quebec.

Because of the high cost involved in transporting unprocessed straw from farm to mill, it has been necessary to limit buying operations to an area within a 100-mile radius of Winnepeg. Farmers living within that area are paid $7 per ton at the plant for threshed straw and $8 per ton for combined straw.

The plant is operating 10 hours daily and by the end of November had consumed approximately 8,000 tons of straw from the 1943 flax crop. Future plans call for operations on a 20-hour basis, producing 1 ton of 40-percent fiber per operating hour.

Output of Industry, Eire

During the calendar year 1943 Eire's paper-making industry consumed 1,798 tons of wood pulp, 6,420 tons of straw, 929 tons of chemicals, and 7,943 tons of waste paper, according to the Census of Industrial Production.

Output of finished products during that year included writing paper in large sheets, 1,216 tons; bag papers, 2,217 tons; and packing and wrapping paper, 4,265 tons, states a foreign publication.

Petroleum and Products

Oil Concessions in Maritime Provinces, Canada

Nine companies are actively interested in oil exploration in the Maritime Provinces of Canada, according to the Dominion press. Seepages at various points in the area indicate that oil may exist at several widely scattered points, but actual production so far has been in a relatively small field near Moncton, New Brunswick. Twenty wells in the area have yielded a total of about 350,000 barrels of oil.

A Halifax concern, the Glencoe Oil Co., holds about 70,000 acres on Cape Breton Island, but other concessions are considerably larger. The Island Development Co. holds the entire area of Prince Edward Island and the adjacent coastal waters, in addition to about 210,000 acres in Pictou County, New Brunswick. Drilling in Hillsborough Bay is already down more than 10,000 feet and is expected to go to 14,000 feet. Operations are being carried out in the vicinity of Mabou on Cape Breton by the Lion Oil Refining Co., and at Kennetcook in Hants County by the Nova Scotia Oil and Gas Co. The former company holds 850,000 acres in Inverness County, Cape Breton, and Victoria County, New Brunswick. The Nova Scotia Co. likewise has considerable holdings, and a number of local businessmen are interested in the venture.

Other companies and their concession areas are as follows: Pictou Petroleum Co., 140,000 acres in Pictou County, New Brunswick, and 275,000 acres in Antigonish and Guysborough Counties, Nova Scotia; Richmond Petroleum Co., 275,000 acres largely in Cape Breton; Sydney Petroleum Co., 275,000 acres in the Sydney and Glace Bay area of Nova Scotia; Hugh McKay, 70,000 acres running from the mainland to include Pictou Island and other small islands; Sun Oil Co., 500,000 acres in Cumberland County, Nova Scotia.

Exports of Petroleum, Colombia

The value of petroleum exported from Colombia during the first half of 1944 increased more than 300 percent over that of the second half of 1943. Figures for the two periods are 19,088,000 pesos and 4,661,000 pesos, respectively. Petroleum is the country's second most important export in value, and in view of the fact that wide-scale exploration for oil is being carried out where prospects are said to be most favorable, further important developments are expected to take place.

Ecuadoran Production

Production of crude petroleum in Ecuador during the third quarter of 1944 amounted to 749,943 barrels, an increase of 18.14 percent, compared with output during the third quarter of the preceding year, and an increase of 4.2 percent, compared with that of the second quarter of 1944. Nearly 570,000 barrels of crude petroleum were exported, principally to Argentina and Uruguay. Little more than 50,000 barrels of gasoline and small amounts of kerosene, Diesel oil, lubricating oil, and other products were produced domestically.

Exploitation of Certain Areas in Mexico

The Mexican Ministry of Mines and Petroleum has announced that Petroleos Mexicanos has applied for permission to explore and exploit certain areas in the States of Veracruz and Puebla. The first application is relative to 12,640 hectares in the Municipalities of Ixhuatlan, Moloacan, and Minatitlan in Veracruz. The second covers an area of 24,746 hectares in the Municipality of Francisco Z. Mena, State of Puebla, and the Municipality of Teayo, State of Veracruz.

Poland's Production

Petroleum production in the oil fields of eastern Poland had reached 60 percent of pre-war levels by the end of October 1944, according to the foreign press. At the same time 25 refineries and 2 plants for extraction of gasoline from natural gas were in operation. Electric-power plants and facilities for testing and experimenting had likewise been restored.

Before the war 65 percent of Poland's total petroleum output came from these fields. Computed on this basis, present production is at the rate of approximately 200,000 metric tons annually.

Radio and Television

Formation of British Radio Institute

The British Institution of Radio Engineers has announced proposals for the formation of a British Radio Research Institute, and has issued a post-war development report, according to the British press. The report deals with (a) the present state and anticipated development of radio science, and (b) education in relation to the technical training of radio workers. It advocates college courses leading up to the award of national certificates in radio engineering, additional subjects for certificate endorsement to include engineering economics, factory organization, and management.

Television Prospects in the United Kingdom

Large-scale television in color is included in a 10-year technical development plan for the British film industry, as outlined to the British Kinematograph Society recently, according to the British Press. Full development of the color film is expected at the end of the first 4 years, and in 2 more years the practical realization of commercial high-definition large-screen television, together with the means of providing and distributing television programs of special events, will be reached. A further 2 years is needed, the report states, for the provision of large-screen television in color, with the final 2 years of the 10 bringing a practical solution of stereoscopic projection.

At a meeting of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in Edinburgh, a member predicted that within a few years after the war at least two television transmitters would be working in Scotland, the report adds. The prediction was made that 10 years after the war television would be as popular in Scotland as radio is now.

Shipbuilding

New Cargo Vessel, Hungary

A new type of flat-bottom vessel has been put into service on Lake Balaton in Hungary, according to the European press. The vessel is equipped with a gasoline engine and a wood-gas generator. The vessel is 92 feet in length, with a cargo-carrying capacity of 50 tons. Should the vessel prove satisfactory, other vessels are to be built for service on the rivers of Hungary.

Plans for Trans-Atlantic Liner, Sweden

An order to construct a trans-Atlantic passenger motor liner for the Swedish American Lines has been placed with the Gotaverken shipyards in Sweden, reports the foreign press. The vessel is expected to be placed in operation in April 1947 for service between Göteburg, Sweden, and New York. Of all-welded construction, the liner is to have an over-all length of 522 feet; maximum beam, 67 feet; displacement, 13,000 tons; gross register, 11,000 tons; total dead-weight capacity, 4,700 tons; and cargo dead-weight capacity, 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

Equipped with two Gotaverken two-stroke single-acting engines designed for a service speed of 19 knots, the auxiliary power is supplied from three 6-cylinder and two 3-cylinder single-acting two-stroke engines, coupled to dynamos, with respective power of 360- and 180-brake horsepower. All auxiliary machinery is electrically driven. The navigation equipment includes a Sal log, an echo sounder, a gyrocompass, radio telephone, and a wireless plant. A fire-extinguisher system in the cargo holds, automatic sprinklers, and a refrigerated compartment of 10,000 cubic feet are to be installed. There are six cargo holds, five large public rooms, and accommodations are such that the vessel may carry either one class of passengers or two classes (cabin and third). Lifeboats consist of four hand-propelled and four motor-driven craft, two of which are emergency boats.

Soaps

Soap Rationing in Germany

In Germany every consumer was allowed until recently one 250-gram package of washing agents month, reports the foreign press. Since this ration could not be maintained, the use of the Reich

soap card and supplementary soap card for November was extended until December 10, resulting in a cut of 33 percent in rations.

Apparently the German soap ration now consists partly of soap powder, which contains no fat of any kind but relies for its cleansing properties on a chemical substance known as Mersol, and partly of soap in which the fat content is replaced by synthetic fatty acids. These are procured principally from synthetic-oil plants, the bombing of which is undoubtedly a cause of the cut in the soap ration.

EXPORTS, UNITED KINGDOM

British exports of soap in 1943 amounted to 79,434 hundredweight, valued at £336,564, in comparison with 1938 exports of 726,231 hundredweight, valued at £1,249,904, states the press.

Textiles and Related Products

Silk and Products

DEVELOPMENT OF SERICULTURE, BRAZIL

Brazil's sericulture industry, centered in the State of Sao Paulo, continues its rapid development. It is estimated that production of reeled silk in 1945 will be at least 500 metric tons.

Total production of silk in 1944 is estimated at 300 tons (about equal to prewar consumption), in comparison with 130 tons during 1943 and 90 tons in 1942. Only about 120 tons will actually be used, because the price continued to rise and reeled silk cost the reelers about $37.50 per kilogram (United States currency), and sales prices reached $42.50 per kilogram. Up to November 20, only 40 tons had been licensed for export. Consequently, reelers will hold a surplus of high-priced silk. To relieve the situation, all quota restrictions were removed as of November 20, permitting exportation of either thrown or unthrown silk.

Miscellaneous Fibers

CANADIAN IMPORTS

During October, Canada imported flax and hemp fabrics valued at $151,000, as compared with $162,000 in October 1943. Totals for the first 10 months of the 2 years are $1,106,000 and $1,843,000, respectively, according to a Canadian publication.

Imports of jute fabrics were valued at $920,000, substantially higher than those of October 1943 which were valued at $497,000. The 10-month total for 1944 is reported as $10,015,000, and is far above the $6,937,000 valuation of jute fabrics imported in like months of the preceding year.

Wearing Apparel

SCARCITY OF CLOTHING, FRENCH MOROCCO

French Morocco has been having some difficulty in meeting the clothing requirements of its population because of

(Continued on p. 35)

U. S. Export Control and Related Announcements

(Developments communicated to the Trade Controls Unit up to Monday, January 15, 1945)

The Foreign Economic Administration has issued the following Current Export Bulletin:

No. 594—*Current Export Bulletin No. 221, January 12, 1945*

REVISED PROCEDURE FOR COMMERCIAL EXPORTATIONS TO MIDDLE EAST DESTINATIONS

A. The Foreign Economic Administration announces that, effective immediately, approval of the Middle East Supply Center in Cairo will no longer be required for proposed exportations to the following Middle East destinations, except for the commodities listed in paragraph D below. Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 16, page 164, paragraph 7, is amended accordingly.

Aden and Aden Protectorate (including Kamaran Island, Perim Island, and Sokotra Island).
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.
British Somaliland.
Cyprus.
Egypt.
Eritrea.
Ethiopia.
French Somaliland.
Iran.
Iraq.
Khorya-Morya Island.
Libya (including Cyrenaica and Tripolitania).
Palestine.
Saudi Arabia.
Syria and Lebanon.
Trans-Jordan.
Yemen.

For the information of exporters, the commodities on this list which are being supplied through commercial channels in the United States are preceded by an asterisk. Exporters may submit export license applications for all commodities not listed in paragraph D and for those commodities listed in paragraph D which are preceded by an asterisk. Applications for export licenses for the commodities listed in paragraph D and *not* preceded by an asterisk are not likely to be granted.

Publication of this information, however, should not be construed as indicating that commodities not listed below are in plentiful supply and will be licensed freely.—As the shipping and supply conditions change, revisions of the list in paragraph D will be announced in subsequent Current Export Bulletins.

B. The exporter is cautioned that the elimination of the approval of the Middle East Supply Center in Cairo for some commodities does not affect the import license requirements of the Middle East countries and that shipments made to those countries which are not covered by import licenses may be confiscated upon arrival. The exporter should continue to give the import license number or indicate "None" under question 5 of all export license applications (Form FEA 419) for proposed shipments to the Middle East destinations.

C. Export license applications for commodities not listed in paragraph D may be filed by the exporter upon receipt of the importer's order. The exporter should not submit an export license application for any commodity listed in paragraph D prior to notification that the proposed shipment has been approved by the Middle East Supply Center in Cairo. Notification will be sent to the exporter by the Middle East Supply Section, Foreign Economic Administration, 61 Broadway, New York 6, New York.

D. Commodities requiring approval by the Middle East Supply Center in Cairo are as follows:

Commodity	Schedule B No.[1]
Automotive Products—items pertaining to automotive transportation:	
*Automobiles	7907.00–7911.00.
*Automotive bodies and cabs	7912.00, 7923.05.
*Automotive maintenance equipment, CMP No. 251	7028.00, 7038.98, 7403.09, 7931.60, 7931.80, 9190.98.
*Automotive replacement parts, CMP No. 105	5457.00, 5458.30, 5459.05, 5474.01, 6425.00, 6099.00, 7092.00, 7921.00, 7923.05, 7927.00.
*Busses and bus bodies	7901.00–7905.00, 7912.00, 7923.05.
*Motorcycles and spare parts	7952.00, 7954.00.
*Storage batteries	7013.00.
*Trucks	7901.00–7904.00.
*Truck tractors and trailers	7901.00, 7901.03, 7902.01, 7902.02, 7903.01, 7904.31–7904.65, 7931.90.
Chemicals—(including drugs):	
*Acetone	8316.00.
*Acetic acid	8300.00.
*Acetic anhydride	8301.00.
*Alcohols: butyl and ethyl	8313.00, 8315.98.
*Ammonia, anhydrous, industrial	8390.00.
*Ammonium nitrate, for industrial purposes	8385.17.
*Ammonium phosphate, industrial	8385.98.
*Ammonium sulfate, industrial	8385.98.
*Aniline oil	8025.15.
*Aniline salt	8025.19.
*Arsenicals:	
*Calcium arsenate	8203.00.
*Lead arsenate	8202.00.
*Paris green	8205.91.
*Sodium arsenate	8135.98, 8379.98.
*Sodium arsenite	8205.98.
*White arsenic	8309.90.
*Butyl acetate	8317.00.
*Calcium carbide	8341.00.
*Carbon bisulfide	8319.00.
*Carbon black	8423.00.
*Carbon tetrachloride	8329.10.
Casein, edible	0069.98.
*Chlorates and perchlorates:	
*Potassium chlorate	8359.08.
*Potassium perchlorate	8359.98.
*Sodium chlorate	8379.05.

See footnotes at end of table.

Commodity	Schedule B No.
Chemicals—Continued.	
*Chlorine	8392.00.
Chrome chemicals:	
Chromic acid tanning compounds	8239.01.
*Potassium bichromate	8357.00.
*Sodium bichromate	8368.00.
*Chrome pigment, lead	8429.05.
*Cinchona bark and derivatives	1780.00, 2209.04, 8124.98, 8127.30, 8127.50, 8135.98, 8157.00.
*Coal-tar dyes	8059.09.
Cresols and cresylic acid	8024.09.
DDT: dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane	8205.98, 8206.00.
*Derris	2209.98.
Diacetone	8329.98.
*Dichlorodifluoromethane gas	8391.00.
Dicyandiamide	8385.98.
*Diphenylamine	8025.70.
Fertilizers and fertilizer materials	8505.00–8551.98.
*Formaldehyde	8320.01, 8320.05.
*Ipecac and derivatives	2209.98, 8124.98.
*Narcotics and salts and derivatives [2]	8135.98.
*Nicotinic acid	8119.98.
Nicotine sulfate	8200.00.
Penicillin	8135.98.
Phthalic anhydride	8025.90.
*Phosphorus and compounds	8398.87, 8398.98.
Pyrethrum:	
Extract	8205.30.
Flowers	2209.19.
Powders	8205.92.
*Rotenone	8205.93.
*Sodium nitrate, industrial	8379.98.
*Toluene and toluol	8011.00.
*Urea, industrial	8385.25.
Vegetable tanning compounds and crude materials	2311.00–2339.98, 2999.95.
Food and food products:	
Argols	8329.98.
Barley	1011.00.
Beans, peas, and lentils	1201.10–1207.00, 1209.00.
Beer	1702.00–1704.00.
*Cerelose	1643.00, 1644.00.
Citric acid and citrates	8307.00.
Cocoa, including beans and preparations	1501.00–1502.00.
*Cod-liver oil, medicinal	8119.05.
Coffee	1511.00, 1512.00.
Corn (maize)	1031.00.
*Dextrose	1644.00, 8135.98.
Essential oils	2268.00–2297.98.
*Peppermint	2268.00.
Fats:	
Animal fats, edible	0051.00–0059.00.
*Oleomargarine of vegetable and animal fats	0059.00.
Animal fats and greases, inedible	0857.00–0858.98.
Cooking fats	1447.00.
Vegetable fats, other edible	1449.98.
Fish, canned, and salted	0077.00–0088.98.
Fruit pulp	1350.03.
Fruits, dried	1321.00–1331.00.
Ginger	1549.98.
*Glucose	1643.00, 1644.00.
Hops	2951.00.
Malt	1013.00.
Milk products, including infant and invalid food	0060.00–0069.98.
Meat and meat products, including hog casings	0020.00–0049.00.
Oats and oats products	1041.00–1044.00.
Oils and oil seeds	0803.00–0847.00, 1420.00–1449.98, 2230.00–2249.98.
*Oleic acid	0847.00.
Onions	1208.00, 1259.03.
*Peas, dried	1202.19.
*Pectin	8296.00.
Potatoes, white (including seed)	1211.00.
Proteins, animal and vegetable for animal feeding	1259.98, 8123.00.
Rice	1057.00.
Rye	1061.00.
*Saccharine	8061.90.
*Seeds, field and vegetable	2401.00–2468.98.
*Soaps	8710.00–8716.00.
Spices:	
Cinnamon	1549.02.
Mace	1549.98.
Nutmeg	1549.07, 1549.98.
Pepper	1549.11, 1549.98.
*Starch and inedible starch products	2811.00, 2813.00.
Sugar	1619.10, 1619.50.
*Manufactured and other sugar products containing 5 percent or more sugar	1629.00–1637.00, 1647.00.
Tartaric acid and tartrates	8202.00, 8359.05.
Tea	1505.00.
*Vitamins	8119.98.
Wheat and wheat flour	1071.00–1074.00.
Whisky, scotch	1716.00.
Wine lees	8329.98.
Yeast, dessicated, for bread making	1256.00.
*Dried grain yeast	1256.00.
Labratory and Dental Supplies:	
*Analytical balances	6197.00.
*Centrifuges, sensitive, above $80	9190.98.
*Dental burrs, angles, and hand pieces	9150.00, 9155.90.
*Microscopes, medical	9149.50.
*Pumps, 1 micron or higher vacuum	9190.98.
Machinery:	
*Agricultural machinery, including tracklaying tractors, as defined in L–257 and L–257a	7800.00–7899.98.
*Construction machinery and equipment	7201.00–7291.00.
*Radio receiving and transmitting equipment and accessories	7076.05–7081.98.
Metals and Minerals:	
*Copper wire and cable, insulated	6430.00–6435.00.

See footnotes at end of table.

(Continued on p. 34)

Trade Lists

The Commercial Intelligence Unit recently has compiled the following trade lists of which mimeographed copies may be obtained by American firms from the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. The price is $1 a list for each country.

Department Stores—Bolivia.
Furniture, Importers and Dealers—Chile.
Metal Working Plants and Shops—Panama.
Motion-Picture Industry—Colombia.
Office Supplies and Equipment, Importers and Dealers—Panama.
Professional and Scientific Instruments, Importers and Dealers—Venezuela.

News by COUNTRIES

(Continued from p. 22)

air services on December 1 to link the Rand with Capetown, Durban, and Salisbury, reports the African press. Schedules call for a daily service (except Saturdays and Sundays) between the Rand and Capetown, on 3 days a week via Durban; on 1 day via Bloemfontein; on 1 day via Kimberley. Daily service is scheduled between the Rand and Durban and one service weekly connecting the Rand with Salisbury.

U. S. S. R.

Transport and Communication

Port Restoration.—Rostov, on the Don River, in the Soviet Union, has been fully rehabilitated in connection with the restoration of traffic on the Sea of Azov, according to the Soviet press. The loading facilities of the port are reported to be more highly mechanized than before the war, as imported stackers, port cranes, and other equipment have been installed.

The personnel of the port has overhauled 16 conveyors, installed 2 port cranes, rebuilt the mooring lines, warehouses, and 2,000 square meters of residential buildings, states this source.

United Kingdom

Transport and Communication

Road-Construction Program.—The General Secretary of the Roads Improvement Association of Great Britain states that a 10-year program has been recommended to remodel and modernize the road system in accordance with a master plan. The project includes the construction of some 1,000 miles of new roads of varying types with the expenditure of £20,000,000 disbursed over a period of 10 years. This amount is above the prewar road expenditure.

U. S. Export Control and Related Announcements

(Continued from p. 33)

Commodity	Schedule B No.
Metals and Minerals—Continued.	
*Lead and lead manufactures	6507.00–6515.98.
Mica and manufactures	5510.00–5513.00.
*Molybdenum wire	6691.08.
Tin and tin manufactures	6565.02–6565.98.
*Tungsten metal, wire shapes and alloys	6639.00.
Textiles—excluding second-hand clothing:	
Cordage, henequen and sisal	3419.09.
*Cotton cordage, twine and rope	3015.00–3021.00.
Cotton thread	3016.00.
*Cotton textiles and manufactures [3]	3021.00–3199.00.
*Cotton yarn	3011.10–3013.20.
Flax and manufactures	3205.03, 3399.05–3399.88.
*Flax thread	3399.88.
*Flax yarn	3399.88.
Sack-sewing flax twine	3419.01.
Hides	0201.01–0250.98.
Jute and manufactures	3205.09, 3224.00–3229.98.
Kapok and manufactures	3205.11, 3499.25.
Leather and manufactures	0300.00–0699.00.
*Mechanical	0359.00.
*Belting	0680.00.
Rayon and manufactures [3]	3830.07, 3840.07–3840.15, 3842.00–3853.20, 3856.00–3858.55.
*Filament yarn	3840.08–3840.11.
Silk	3702.00–3719.00.
Wool manufactures and semimanufactures	3622.00–3683.00.
*Rags, noils and waste	3622.00, 3626.00.
*Yarn, other than worsted	3633.00.
*Felt	3664.00, 3666.00.
*Piece goods	3642.01–3643.00.
Miscellaneous—(including consumers goods):	
*Arms and ammunition [2]	9470.04–9497.96.
*Batteries, dry and storage	7013.00–7018.00.
Bristles, hog	0935.00.
Cement	5164.00–5165.00.
Coal	5001.00, 5002.00.
*Explosives [2]	8601.00–8629.00.
*Fuses	8625.00–8629.00.
*Film, motion picture, unexposed 35 mm	9117.10, 9117.20.
*Film, X-Ray	9126.10.
*Paper, related products and manufactures	4712.00–4799.00.
*Railway cars, mine type	7967.50.
*Refrigerators	7057.00, 7058.00, 9841.00.
Rubber and manufactures	2001.00–2099.90.
*Other rubber manufactures	2014.00–2059.00, 2069.05–2099.90.
Rubber tires and tubes	2060.00–2067.00.
*Sewing machines, domestic	7551.05.
*Wood and wood manufactures [3]	4001.00–4299.00.
Wood pulp	4600.00–4619.00.
*Wax, paraffin	5045.00, 5046.00.

[1] Schedule B numbers given conform with those in the latest issue of schedule B, dated January 1, 1945.
[2] For arms, ammunition, explosives, and narcotics licensed by other agencies, see Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 16, page 204.
[3] The following do not require approval of the Middle East Supply Center: (a) All unallocated narrow textile fabrics. (b) Wood items under general license to group K countries.

U. S. S. R. Saves Its Oil

(Continued from p. 13)

country's total consumption of kerosene, 82 percent of the ligroine, more than 70 percent of the Diesel fuel, 33 percent of the gasoline, 69 percent of the automobile oil, and relatively high percentages of all other types of liquid fuels. While most of the tractors in the pre-war years were built to consume liquid fuels, two types of gas-generating machines were in commercial production. But "wastes," such as sapropeles, peat, shale, and other similar products, were not used to any great extent.

Use of tractors for State farms located throughout the country is regulated by the machine-tractor stations, and therefore policy in regard to adoption of new types of tractors is reflected directly. The general idea has been to adapt the tractor design in a given area to the fuel available there. In connection with this plan, the following recommendations have been carried out:

1. Utilization of local fuel as gas-generating solid fuel in mobile and stationary gas-generators.
2. Conversion of solid fuel by chemical treatment into synthetic liquid fuel to burn in liquid-fuel engine tractors.
3. Burning fuel under boilers of steam tractors and engines.
4. Introduction of electric tractors.

Conversion to Gas-Generating Installations

There has been, however, a general movement to adopt gas-generating tractors. This was preceded by considerable experimentation in use of fuel for these installations—with the consideration always that transportation must be reduced to the minimum.

A general policy in regard to fuels for gas-generating tractors finally was evolved. Use of wood is henceforth to be discouraged because it is low in energy content and is expensive. One tractor consumes annually the wood from 2½ acres of forest, and although Soviet Russia has vast timber resources, this would mean too rapid a depletion of reserves.

Charcoal is recommended because it can be handled easily, has high thermal value, and yields no resinous substances. Good results have been obtained from dry distillation of wood wastes, pitch of pine, stumps, windfalls, and slabs. Peat, sapropeles, and shales have high energy content and may be used directly in generating installations without treatment of any kind. Semicoked peat has been effectively utilized in the Kirov, Murmansk, and Moscow oblasts, and distillation of peat tar, which gives liquid fuel and lubricants referred to above, reduces considerably the cost of producing this fuel.

In Kirgizia, Uzbekistan, and the Far East, brown coal has come into popularity for gas-generating tractors. The cost of using brown coal in these installations is said to be about one-sixth that of gasoline, one-third that of wood, and from one-half to one-third that of charcoal.

In agriculture, perhaps more than in any other consumption category use of oil has been drastically reduced, particularly in the outlying regions. The fact that agricultural production is exceeding all records testifies to the adequacy of the many substitutes developed.

Conserving Oil Resources

This, then, is the general pattern for utilization of local fuels in Soviet Russia. Its application varies from place to place according to local needs and local resources. Results obtained likewise vary—the Soviets call them good, indifferent, and admittedly bad, since some areas still have to depend upon fuel that is transported over costly distances.

Many of the productive processes employed would be considered uneconomical in other countries. In the United States, for example, commercial production of shale oil and synthetic oil from coal is too expensive to be undertaken, since these products cannot compete in consumer markets with natural petroleum products. But in the Soviet Union there is no question of competition of this sort; the planned economy provides that one thing is to be used in one place and another in another, and as far as possible each area is to be independent of all others. The "whole economy" is not one integrated whole but rather the sum of its various parts.

Application of the plan has another aspect that must not be overlooked. By utilizing low-grade coal, sapropeles, shale, peat, and other secondary resources, the Soviet Union is cutting down sharply on oil consumption for industrial and agricultural purposes. The total potential power reserves are, of course, the same, whether primary resources are used first—as they are in the United States—or last. But by developing both types at the same time, Soviet Russia may be stretching out its oil reserves appreciably and at the same time building up an alternative production far beyond the experimental stage.

Trade-Mark Applications

Argentina.—Notice of applications for registration of the following trade-marks was published in the Boletin Oficial of December 26, 1944. Opposition must be filed before January 29, 1945:

Trade-mark	*Class No. and product*
Autofon	20—Entire class.
Renton	10—Entire class.
Burleigh	21—Entire class.

Brazil.—Notice of applications for registration of the following trade-marks was published in the Diario Oficial. Opposition must be filed within 60 days from the date of publication:

Trade-mark	Class No. and product	Date of publication
		1944
Longivix	3—A tonic pharmaceutical preparation.	Dec. 22
Acrolisis	3—A pharmaceutical preparation.	Do.
Pesogeno	3—A pharmaceutical product.	Do.
Colestil	do	Do.
Miltons	41—Animal and vegetal foodstuffs preserved or not. Ingredients for foods and preparation of substances for the same purpose, preserved or not.	Do.
Bilialgina	3—A pharmaceutical product.	Do.
Glamurante	48—Perfumes and scented soaps. Preparations for cleaning and conservation of teeth and hair, and brushes. Combs and other toilet articles not specified.	Do.
Midilina	3—A pharmaceutical preparation.	Do.
Gold Star	8—Radios and refrigerators	Do.
Vitaurin	3—A pharmaceutical preparation.	Do.
Collutan	do	Do.
Royal	41—Macaroni	Do.
Royal	41—Cereal foods	Do.
Lobo	1—Chemical substances used in manufactured products, industries, analyses, research, photography and as anticorrosives.	Do.
Union	3—Repackaged chemicals and drugs.	Do.
Typhoon	8—Electric batteries	Do.
America	40—Furniture	Do.
Imperial	55—Polishing wax	Dec. 23
Stereofoto	8—Precision, scientific (including for industrial, educational and utility purposes, measures and scales of all kinds) instruments.	Do.
Setimo Ceu	36—Outer wearing apparel (clothing, shoes, hats, knit goods, stockings and unspecified).	Do.
Trix	2—Chemical substances used for agricultural and horticultural, veterinary and sanitary purposes.	Dec. 20
GNB-A-DDT	do	Do.
Piodentil	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Piodentil	10—Instruments, apparatus, and appliances, medicinal, surgical, veterinary for curative purposes or in relation to the health of man or animals.	Do.
Smoky	48—Perfumes and scented soaps. Preparations for cleaning and conservation of teeth and hair, and brushes. Combs and other toilet articles not specified.	Do.
Queen	36—Outer wearing apparel (clothing, shoes, hats, knit goods, stockings and unspecified).	Do.
Rival	46—Matches, candles, common and detergent soap. Starch, blueing, and other preparations for washing.	*1944* Dec. 20
Butyol	41—Animal and vegetal foodstuffs preserved or not. Ingredients for foods and preparation of substances for the same purpose, preserved or not.	Dec. 21
Lider	40—Wooden and metal furniture upholstered or not (except for office and technical uses). Mattresses, pillows, covers and quilts for beds and furniture.	Do.
Internacional	39—Articles of rubber or gutta-percha (not included in other classes).	Do.
Felpatex	37—Underwear and bed sheets, table covers, etc.	Do.
Kelotocyl	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Languebil	do	Do.
Ketetran	do	Do.
Kiskolim	do	Do.
Kiskiofilus	do	Do.
Odokil	do	Do.
Boldoneurin	do	Do.
Cylopan	do	Do.
Esclerneurin	do	Do.
Keletanis	do	Do.
Kiskibel	do	Do.
Kelevarin	do	Do.
Kiskiofor	do	Do.
Kelepat	do	Do.
Wilco	41—Animal and vegetal foodstuffs preserved or not. Ingredients for foods and preparation of substances for the same purpose, preserved or not.	Do.
Celopaco	38—Paper, for writing, binding and drawing of all kinds. Other paper manufactures (not included in other classes).	Do.
Franklin	36—Outer wearing apparel (clothing, shoes, hats, knit goods, stockings and unspecified).	Do.
Grifo	38—Paper, for writing, binding, and drawing of all kinds. Other paper manufactures (not included in other classes).	Do.
	49—Games and toys of all kinds. Sporting goods and wearing apparel exclusively for sports.	
	8—Precision, scientific (including for industrial, educational and utility purposes, measures and scales of all kinds) instruments.	Do.
Royal	38—Paper, for writing, binding and drawing of all kinds. Other paper manufactures (not included in other classes).	Do.

Guatemala.—Notice of applications for registration of the following trade-marks was published in the Diario Oficial. Opposition must be filed within 40 days from the date of first publication:

Trade-mark	Class No. and product	Date of first publication
		1944
Garrard Swindon	36—Gramaphone motors	Dec. 28

Ecuador.—The following trade-marks have been filed on the dates indicated. In Ecuador a period of 2 to 3 months expires before the first notice of the mark is published. Thirty days from such publication is allowed in which to file opposition, although a protest may be received before Ministerial Resolution granting the registration is made. Such Ministerial Resolution is usually signed within a period of a week to a month after the date of last publication is usually made within 30 days from first publication:

Trade-mark	Product	Date of application
		1944
Emce	Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations of all kinds.	Nov. 22
Borosodine	do	Do.
Cryogenine	do	Do.
Tulle-Gras	do	Do.
Allostomine	do	Do.
San Miguel	Films, moving pictures, records, phonographs, etc.	Dec. 1
Record	Toilet preparations	Nov. 23
Nefrina-Turro	Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations of all kinds.	Nov. 22
Tiroidina Turro	do	Do.
Viscum-Om	do	Do.
Pentalon-Guanidine	do	Do.
Pentalon-Diazine	do	Do.
Grateagus-Om	do	Do.
Cynabil-Om	do	Do.
Highland Queen	Whisky	Dec. 7
Llave	Soaps, cosmetics, such as creams, powders, dyes, etc.	Nov. 26
Saka-Gusano	Veterinarian products used in treatment of worms in cattle.	Nov. 17

News by COMMODITIES

(Continued from p. 32)

delays in the receipt of cloth imports. It is estimated that approximately 34,000,000 yards, purchased in 1944, have not yet been delivered.

Tobacco and Related Products

Mexican Tobacco Industry

Approximately 14,200 metric tons of tobacco were harvested in the State of Nayarit in Mexico during the third quarter of 1944, according to trade estimates. Only about 1,200 tons of this amount were sun dried. The harvest was one of the most succesful in the industry's history. Transplanting of new seedlings was started in September 1944 and acreage was estimated at 20,000 hectares, about the same as in the preceding year. Mexico's 1943–44 crop of tobacco, the harvesting and drying of which were completed in July, totaled approximately 20,000 metric tons.

Approximately 51,500 motor cycles are in operation in Australia, according to the European press.

Latin American Exchange Rates

NOTE.—Averages are based on actual selling rates for sight drafts on New York, in units of foreign currency, per dollar, with the following exception: Cuba—United States dollar to the peso. The peso of the Dominican Republic, the Guatemalan quetzal, and the Panamanian balboa are linked to the dollar at 1 to 1; the Haitian gourde is fixed at 5 gourdes to a dollar.

Country	Unit quoted	Type of exchange	Average rate			Latest available quotation		
			1942 (annual)	1943 (annual)	August 1944 (monthly)	Rate	Approximate equivalent in U. S. currency	Date
Argentina	Paper peso	Official A	3.73	3.73	3.73	3.73	$0.2681	Nov. 30, 1944
		Official B	4.23	4.23	4.23	4.23	.2364	Do.
		Bid	4.94	4.94	4.94	4.94	.2024	Do.
		Free market		4.06	4.0450	4.03	.2482	Do.
Bolivia	Boliviano	Controlled	46.46	42.91	42.42	42.42	.0236	Nov. 21, 1944
		Curb	49.66	45.42	50.00	57.00	.0175	Do.
Brazil	Cruzeiro [1]	Official	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	.0606	Sept. 11, 1944
		Free market	19.64	19.63	19.565	19.50	.0513	Do.
		Special free market	20.52	20.43	20.30	20.00	.0500	Do.
Chile	Peso	Special	19.37	19.37	19.37	19.37	.0516	Nov. 30, 1944
		Export draft	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	.0400	Do.
		Free market	31.75	32.37	31.69	31.78	.0315	Do.
		"D. P." [2]	31.13	31.00	31.00	31.00	.0323	Do.
Colombia	do	Commercial bank	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.746	.5727	Oct. 30, 1944
		Bank of Republic	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.755	.5698	Do.
		Curb	1.77	1.76	1.75	1.75	.5714	Do.
Costa Rica	Colon	Uncontrolled	5.71	5.65	5.6776	5.68	.1761	Nov. 30, 1944
		Controlled	5.62	5.62	5.62	5.62	.1779	Do.
Cuba	Peso	Free	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.0000	Do.
Ecuador	Sucre	Central Bank (official)	14.39	14.10	14.10	13.50	.0741	Nov. 20, 1944
Honduras	Lempira	Official	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	.4902	Nov. 30, 1944
Mexico	Peso	Free	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.85	.2062	Do.
Nicaragua	Cordoba	Official	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	.2000	Dec. 16, 1944
		Curb		5.16	5.76	6.16	.1633	Do.
Paraguay	Paper peso	Official	333.00	[3] 333.00				
	Guarani [4]	do		3.10	3.12	3.12	.3205	Nov. 25, 1944
Peru	Sol	Free	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	.1538	Nov. 11, 1944
Salvador	Colon	do	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	.4000	Nov. 30, 1944
Uruguay	Peso	Controlled	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	.5263	Do.
		Free	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	.5263	Do.
Venezuela	Bolivar	Controlled	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	.2985	Do.
		Free	3.45	3.35	3.35	3.35	.2985	Do.

[1] Under law of Oct. 6, 1942, the cruzeiro became the unit of currency, replacing the milreis. Since Nov. 1, 1942, exchange quotations have been in terms of cruzeiros and centavos to the dollar.
[2] Disponibilidades proprias (private funds).
[3] Used until Nov. 7, when the paper peso was replaced by the guarani.
[4] New currency unit instituted as of Nov. 8, 1943. Paraguayan central bank establishes a "legal rate" from which buying and selling rates may vary by 1 percent. Since July 13, 1944, the legal rate has been fixed at 3.09 guaranies to the dollar, resulting in buying and selling rates of 3.059 and 3.121, respectively.

NOTE.—Special rates apply to automotive equipment and agricultural machinery imported from the United States into Argentina.

Late AIRGRAMS

(Continued from p. 15)

2,000,000 quetzales limit of an additional 1,000,000 quetzales in silver and allowed for further necessary silver coinage on a gold purchase basis. The portfolio of the long dormant Banco Agricola Hipotecario was acquired by the Banco Central for approximately 300,000 quetzales and liquidation of this institution's holdings in real property was begun.

Official Government control as a war defense measure was established over radio and telegraph communications and an office of Censor of Public Spectacles was created. Expropriation proceedings against a small number of Axis properties were completed by the registration in the name of the Nation of coffee fincas having a total valuation as declared by former owners of approximately 400,000 quetzales. Plans were being discussed, initiated by the Government, looking toward a State organized corporation for operating expropriated Axis and other nationally owned agricultural properties. The shares of this company at 5 quetzales par value, would be offered to Guatemalan nationals only, each purchaser to be limited to 2,000 shares and 50 percent of the stock to be retained by the nation.

Coffee sales during the month were accomplished at prices in general over U. S. ceilings for grades below the top ceiling level, and offerings were slack up to the end of the month, growers holding back in anticipation of further price advances. The crop is presently estimated to yield around 996,000 bags of 60 kilograms. As the month ended unofficial trade advices reported a supposed increase in the United States import quota which tended to strengthen the local market.

Banana shipments were the heaviest for any month during the second semester of 1944.

The Government issued the first of what is expected to be a series of commodity ceiling price schedules affecting articles subject to import and sales control. Wholesale and retail prices were fixed on machetes, wire, iron rods and sheeting, in order to aid small farmers and to stimulate building. Active efforts were being made by the Government to establish an effective mechanism, based on existing emergency legislation, principally Legislative decree No. 960 of 1917, to control the advancing prices of articles of prime necessity such as meat, corn, wheat, rice, beans, sugar, salt, coffee for domestic consumption, etc.

Haiti

(From the U. S. Embassy, Port-au-Prince)

Slow movement of coffee continues to be the chief feature of economic significance in Haiti. Exporters are still anticipating higher prices despite announcements by O. P. A. that United States ceiling prices will not be raised. Substantial shipments made during December to Switzerland at excellent prices have further encouraged this attitude.

Reduction in the textile allocation continued to cause dismay among local importers, despite the fact that Haiti received a disproportionately large share of total United States exports of chambrays and denims, the two most important categories of textile imports. Efforts of the F. E. A. and the Embassy through conferences and the press to explain the reduction as due to the war, however, have met with excellent reception.

The 1945 sugar-grinding season got under way January 5, with cane deliveries coming in well. The present season is expected to be one of the best in many years.

The recent War Production Board decision requiring confirmation by the Haitian Government of all firm orders of sisal handicraft articles appears to have disturbed both the manufacturers in Haiti and the importers in New York. It was reported that many of the local manufacturers have shut down their plants and the United States importers have halted imports pending clarification. The War Production Board decision limiting imports of sisal handicraft into the United States to products made from hand-processed sisal unsuitable for cordage has not been fully comprehended and this misunderstanding has caused the present situation.

Honduras

(From U. S. Embassy, Tegucigalpa)

The recently announced general increase in United States coffee import quotas has been met with only limited enthusiasm in Honduras, for it is considered too small to make any significant change in the serious plight of the domestic coffee grower. The original Honduran quota for the year October 1, 1944, to September 30, 1945, was filled as of December 16, 1944, whereas harvesting of the current year's crop will not even begin until late January or February 1945. Pointing to this fact, dealers maintain that not a general increase, but only a drastic revision of the basic Honduran quota, will solve the problem of the disposition of Honduras' second most important export crop.

The present session of the Honduran National Legislature, which convened in December 1944, promises to be an interesting one from a commercial and economic standpoint. Among the decrees passed during its initial few weeks were the following:

Decree No. 4 approves a concession for the establishment of a factory for the manufacture of paper bags and other paper and cardboard containers. The concession specifies that the factory must be installed and begin operation within the next 8 months; the machinery will no doubt be sought in the United States, and will be introduced into Honduras with special tariff exemptions. Another similar concession, allowing different parties to enter the paper-bag industry, has already been approved by the Executive and is now pending the approval of the Congress. Meanwhile, a lively debate is taking place over the bill introduced by the President of the Congress to reduce the import duty on paper bags from 0.40 lempira to 0.25 lempira per kilogram. If this bill should be passed, it is doubtful that either concessionnaire would take advantage of his concession.

Decree No. 9 provides for the importation of up to $10,000 in United States copper pennies to alleviate a shortage of Honduran 2-centavo pieces, which are similar to the pennies in size and content. Although this is the first time it has been necessary to import pennies, United States 50-cent and 10-cent coins have been in use in Honduras for over a year and a half, and the amount of such coins in the country at the present time is over $3,500,000.

Decree No. 10 releases from "freezing" control the funds of all Italian nationals in Honduras whose accounts have been blocked. The number of Italian nationals concerned, however, is only approximately six, and the accounts are all of negligible importance.

Decree No. 12 approves the Executive decree which provided for the forced public sale of proclaimed-list properties which up until recently have been administered by Government intervenors. The sales have actually been going on since July 1944 as provided in the decree and with increased activity during the past few months.

A more significant problem which is still facing this Congress is the approval or rejection of the various domestic airline concessions which are pending. Several new companies have applied for contracts within the past year and are awaiting legislative approval; meanwhile, Transportes Aéreos Centroamericanos (TACA), the only company now operating domestically, must submit its contracts to this Congress for renewal.

Panama

(From the U. S. Embassy, Panama)

Construction activity continues to occupy a position of primary importance in Panamanian economy. The Government has requested bids for 150 federal and provincial schools as a part of its $3,000,000 school-building program. It also has announced completion of plans for construction of buildings amounting to a total of $600,000, which include hospitals, a $350,000 reformatory, and other public buildings.

The Ministry of Health and Public Works has submitted its 1945 program for public-building and road construction for which a budget of $13,545,000 was recommended by the executive branch of the Government. Newspapers and civic groups have advocated a $30,000,000 bond issue for road building over a period of years, but no action has been taken by the Government. Contracts have been awarded the United States Public Roads Administration for street extensions in Panama City to be completed at a cost of $700,000. The early completion of an airport in Changuinola is expected.

The President of Panama has appointed a commission to study a free trade zone in the Republic which was to report as soon as possible the possibilities of establishing such a zone.

Outstanding commercial developments included the incorporation of a new company for the manufacture of cotton products with a capitalization of $200,000, and a new aviation company with authorized capital of $2,000,000, which was incorporated by a group of Panamanians with the intention of establishing an international freight and passenger service.

Retail holiday sales for December were estimated to be equal, if not superior, to 1943 holiday sales. In the last few days of December a sharp decline was evidenced, attributed to political uncertainties. Banking transactions were reported on the whole at a volume comparable to that of immediately preceding months. Collections continued on a favorable trend.

New Books and Reports

★The following publications, added to the Department's research facilities, through the courtesy of the authors and publishers, are listed as a service to businessmen. *Please note:* The Department has no copies of private publications for distribution and cannot be responsible for their content. For private publications, write direct to the publishing agency given in each case.

Articles of Interest to Businessmen Appearing in the Department of State Bulletin January 7, 1945.

Copies of this publication, which is issued weekly by the Department of State, may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for the price of 10 cents each; subscription price, $2.75 a year. The January 7 issue contains these articles:

IN DEFENSE OF THE AMERICAS AGAINST AXIS POLITICAL AGGRESSION: THE EMERGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL DEFENSE.

FINAL PAYMENT BY MEXICO UNDER THE SPECIAL CLAIMS CONVENTION OF 1934.

THE STATE OF THE UNION: ANNUAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE CONGRESS.

A MESSAGE FOR THE NEW YEAR: ADDRESS BY THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE.

NONMILITARY TRAFFIC ON FOREIGN ROUTES

REPLY TO SENATOR WHEELER'S ATTACK UPON THE UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER PRINCIPLE: STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL AIR LAW. ARTICLE BY STEPHEN LATCHFORD.

INFORMATION FOR A PEOPLE'S PEACE: REMARKS BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MACLEISH.

THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE AT CHICAGO AND WHAT IT MEANS TO THE AMERICAS: ADDRESS BY STOKELEY W. MORGAN.

SIGNING OF TWO UNRRA SANITARY CONVENTIONS.

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT, CANADA AND INDIA.

DOUBLE TAXATION CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL WITH FRANCE: PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT.

Other Publications

PERU'S TRADE PROBLEMS. U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. 1944. 40 pp. Inquiry Reference Service.

Available gratis from: Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.

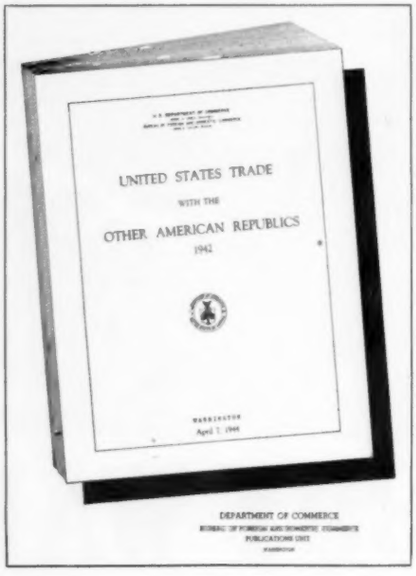
UNITED NATIONS MONETARY AND FINANCIAL CONFERENCE. U. S. Department of State. 1944. 122 pp. Publication 2187, Conference Series 55. Price, 25 cents. Presents the final act and related documents of the conference at Bretton Woods, N. H., July 1 to July 22, inclusive, 1944.

Available from: Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN HANDBOOK, 1944. Trade & Travel Publications, Ltd., 1944. Twenty-first annual edition. 858 pp. Price, $1.25. Annual guide and reference to the countries, products, trade, and resources of Cuba, Mexico, and Central and South America. Contains information on governments and diplomats of these countries, migration, physical features, literature, history, exports and imports, industries, banking, insurance, natural resources, currency, railway, steamship, and air services, towns and hotels, sightseeing, public holidays.

Available from: The H. W. Wilson Co., 950–972 University Ave., New York 52, N. Y.

AMERICAN AVIATION DIRECTORY, FALL-WINTER 1944–45. American Aviation Associates, Inc. 1944. Vol. 5, No. 2. 715 pp. Price, $5. A directory of aviation officials and companies in the United States, Canada, and Latin America. Material is grouped into the following sections: Air transportation, listing air carriers of the United States, Alaska, Canada, Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia and New Zealand, and foreign-carrier offices in the United States; parent and holding companies; manufacturing, listing United States aircraft, engine, helicopter and propeller manufacturers, and Canadian and Latin American aircraft and engine manufacturers; accessories; organizations, listing United States aviation organizations and associations, and international and foreign groups. A Government section lists agencies concerned with aviation, State, and local aeronautics commissions, foreign government agencies and officials concerned with aviation, and foreign purchasing and supply commissions in the United States.



Contributors' Column

Kenneth W. Baker ("Venezuela—Storehouse of Oils and Food"). See the March 25, 1944, issue of FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY.

Marian Drake Hall ("Fragrant Oils Exported From India and Ceylon"). See the January 6, 1945, issue of FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY.

Dorothy V. Knibb ("U. S. S. R. Saves Its Oil"). See the September 9, 1944, issue of FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY.

Available from: American Aviation Associates, Inc., American Bldg., Washington 4, D. C.

BALKAN BACKGROUND. Bernard Newman. 1945. 354 pp. Price, $2.50. The author discusses the situation in the Balkan countries, presenting briefly the racial origin of each, its history, economic problems, and current conditions. A final chapter suggests means of solving these economic problems and of bettering the low-living standards generally prevailing.

Available from: The Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth Ave., New York 11, N. Y.

BELGIAN HANDBOOK. Compiled by Walter Ford. 1944. 84 pp. Contains helpful information on Belgium, discussing that country's industries, transport and communications, foreign trade, shipping and ports, agriculture, banking and finance, social services and labor legislation, educational facilities, scientific and technical research, and a brief summary of operations of the Belgian Government established in England since the war.

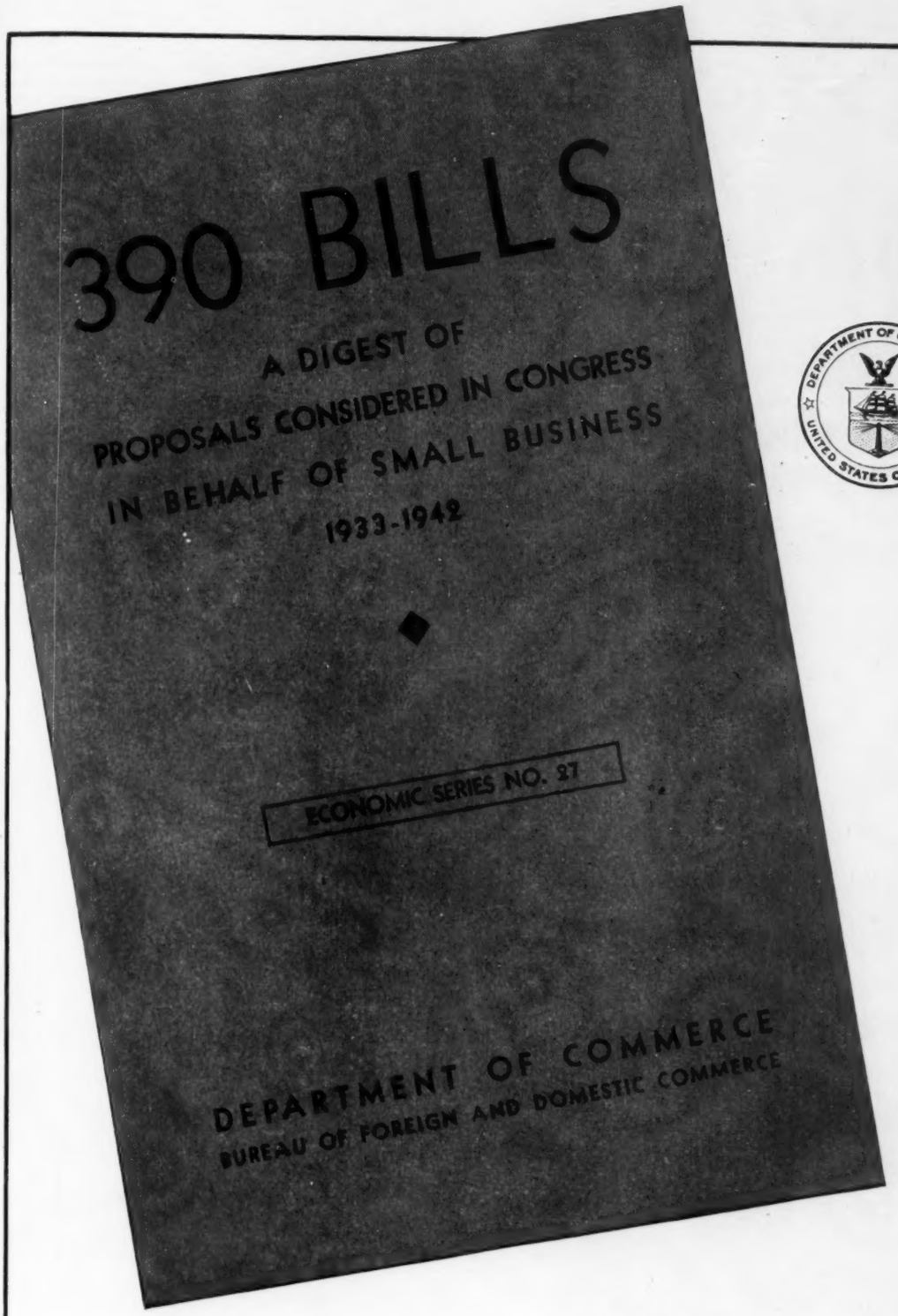
Available from: The Belgian Information Office, 25 Eaton Place, London, S. W. 1, England.

TODAY'S CHILDREN—TOMORROW'S HOPE: THE STORY OF CHILDREN IN OCCUPIED LANDS. United Nations Information Office. 1944. 52 pp. Price, 25 cents. Relates briefly how the children in enemy-occupied countries were affected by conditions following invasion, as regards home life, health, education; tells what they did to preserve education; and suggests plans for rehabilitating the youth of these lands.

Available from: United Nations Information Office, 610 Fifth Ave., New York 20, N. Y.

Watch Your Packing!

Goods are being received in such bad condition in Barbados, British West Indies, that a complaint was presented to the Seventh Congress of the Associated West Indian Chambers of Commerce which met in Barbados from June 22 to June 27, 1944.



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